

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN JEFFERSON COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (1-20) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Jefferson County, according to Commission Vice Chairman R. Madison Murphy of El Dorado.

The purpose of the project is to install traffic signals at the intersections of Highway 65B, Highway 79B and Highway 365 in Pine Bluff, and at Highway 65B and Cherry Street, also in Pine Bluff. Shelby Electric Company, Inc. of Memphis, Tennessee, was awarded the contract at \$417,140.90.

“These signals will make travel through these areas of Pine Bluff much safer for motorists,” stated Murphy.

The project is being funded with money provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Act provided Arkansas with \$351 million in federal stimulus funds for roadway and bridge improvements throughout the state. Additional information about the ARRA can be found at www.recovery.gov. For more information about its impact on Arkansas, go to www.recovery.arkansas.gov. Information about specific road and bridge construction projects can be found by going to www.ArkansasHighways.com, and clicking on the ARRA logo and link in the lower right portion of the page.

Murphy said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in the summer of 2010.

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