

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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AHC-011
January 20, 2010

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN POLK COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (1-20) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Polk County, according to Commissioner Dick Trammel of Rogers.

The purpose of the project is to construct a northbound passing lane on Highway 71, between Highway 246 and County Road 16. Jimmy Jones Excavation, Inc. of Berryville, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$2,239,182.80.

“This new passing lane will be located north of Wickes and will be approximately 1.5 miles in length,” stated Trammel.

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.

Hoofman said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in the summer of 2011.

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