

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN MISSISSIPPI COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (9-29) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Mississippi County, according to Commissioner John Ed Regenold of Armorel.

The purpose of the project is to reconstruct approximately five miles of Interstate 55, near Blytheville. Delta Asphalt of Arkansas, Inc. of Paragould, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$22,210,773.65.

“This project will completely rehabilitate the northbound and southbound interstate lanes in an area beginning just south of Highway 61 and continuing northward to just past Highway 18,” stated Regenold. “These improvements to Interstate 55 will last for years to come.”

Regenold noted that the Interstate 55 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.

Regenold said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in about two and one-half years.

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