

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
P. O. Box 2261 – Little Rock, Arkansas Telephone (501) 569-2227

**Contact:**  
Randy Ort/David Nilles

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### **ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN GARLAND COUNTY**

**LITTLE ROCK (11-16)** -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Garland County, according to Commission Chairman Carl Rosenbaum of Little Rock and Garland County Judge Larry Williams.

The purpose of the first project is to construct 4.5 miles of passing lanes on Highway 270, west of Hot Springs. Cranford Construction Company of North Little Rock, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$9,731,551.47.

“There will be four sets of new passing lanes, two eastbound and two westbound, plus we are extending the existing westbound passing lane,” stated Rosenbaum. “The new lanes will be located between the Highway 270 Bridge over Lake Hamilton and the Montgomery County line.”

A second project will reconstruct and resurface approximately one mile of Arkridge Road (County Road 40) near Hot Springs. Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded this contract at \$520,035.97.

“Improvements on Arkridge Road will begin at Highway 128 and continue westward for one mile,” stated Judge Williams.

Rosenbaum noted that the County Road project is funded through the State Aid Road Program established by the legislature and administered by the State Aid Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This program provides approximately \$20 million annually from the state motor fuels tax to assist counties with projects of their choosing on the county road system.

Rosenbaum said work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on Highway 270 in 2013. Work on Arkridge Road should be completed mid 2011.

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