

# 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 JEFFERSON COUNTY**

**LITTLE ROCK (9-09)** -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Jefferson County, according to Commission Chairman R. Madison Murphy of El Dorado.

The purpose of the project is to construct the first two lanes of the ultimate four lanes for the extension of Interstate 530 south of Pine Bluff. Martin Marietta Materials, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$13,916,735.34.

“This project is one of numerous projects that are extending Interstate 530 southward so it will ultimately serve as the new four-lane connector between Pine Bluff and the Warren/Monticello area,” stated Murphy.

“For this project, paving will begin at the Interstate 530 interchange currently under construction in Pine Bluff and extend southward approximately five miles to Steep Bank Creek. The grading and structure work is almost completed and this paving project will be the next step.”

“This project will also include construction of the acceleration lanes and ramps in the interchange area along existing Interstate 530,” Murphy added.

Murphy added that when this project and a connecting project to the south of it are completed, the roadway will be open to traffic southward to Highway 212.

Murphy said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in early 2013.

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