

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/Glenn Bolick

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COMMISSION AUTHORIZES CHANGES TO SPEED LIMITS ON SELECTED RURAL FOUR AND FIVE LANE HIGHWAYS

LITTLE ROCK (6-13) – The Arkansas Highway Commission authorized Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) to raise speed limits on certain highways during a regular meeting of the Commission on Tuesday. A recent analysis of rural four and five lane highways recommended that increased speed limits be allowed on a number of highways from 55 mph to 60 mph.

“The Commission asked us earlier this year to study these rural highways to determine if modifications to the speed limits were warranted,” said AHTD Director Scott Bennett. “Based on a thorough engineering analysis, where safety is always first, we have determined that there are sections of these highways that may warrant a raise in the speed limit.”

Approximately 265 miles of rural, four and five lane, undivided highways are included and will be considered for raising speed limits from 55 mph to 60 mph. Speed limit sign changes could be made within the next several weeks.

The Department reviewed all rural four and five lane highways currently posted at 55 mph. Sections of less than two miles were generally excluded. A total of 87 sections were studied in detail, including a review of the design speeds, the 85th percentile speeds and crash rates, as well as the locations of traffic signals and school zones.

For more information go to www.arkansashighways.com.

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MAP ATTACHED

