

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
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BIG ROCK STEEL WORK: BY THE NUMBERS

FACT SHEET DETAILS SCOPE OF LATEST PHASE OF CONSTRUCTION

LITTLE ROCK (7-17) – The countdown continues to July 19 at 9:00 a.m. when the Big Rock Interchange (I-430/I-630) in Little Rock will undergo another round of lane shifts, setting the stage for one of the most ambitious phases of construction on the project to date.

Thursday marks the start of 20 straight days of work—24 hours a day, weather-permitting—as crews install more than three-dozen massive steel beams that will provide the framework for the interchange’s new flyover ramps.

Two 500-ton cranes will be brought in to lift the 9-foot-high beams into place. Because of their weight and size, each crane will be assembled on-site, requiring a total of 16 additional semi tractor-trailers that carry parts and other support equipment.

The attached Fact Sheet lists many of the other details and statistics that make this phase of the Big Rock Interchange modification so unique.

Motorists are being asked to alter their travel routine as workers prepare for seven traffic pattern changes on the I-430 lanes over a 20-day period. A combination of one and two of the I-430 lanes—northbound and southbound—will close at various times during the lane shifts.

This phase of work includes the longest duration of lane shifts and the most significant impacts to motorists thus far. Message boards, detours and advisory speeds will be posted throughout the interchange area.

For more information go to www.ArkansasHighways.com.

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BIG ROCK STEEL WORK FACT SHEET

Number of Workers On-Site:	3 shifts / Approximately 100 workers per day
Number of Cranes Being Used:	Two large (500-ton) cranes, plus four small cranes
Large Crane (Lift) Weight:	500 tons
Large Crane Maximum Boom Length:	130 feet
Large Crane Assembly Time:	4-6 hours per crane
Large Crane Support Vehicles:	8 tractor-trailers per crane
Total Number of Beams to Hang:	40
Number of Beams Per Flyover Ramp:	25 for I-630 westbound to I-430 southbound flyover 15 for I-430 southbound to I-630 eastbound flyover
Beam Length:	Varies
Longest Single Beam:	130 feet
Beam Height:	9 feet
Beam Weight:	Varies
Heaviest Single Beam:	114,000 lbs
Longest Spans to Connect:	254 ft. & 243 ft. for I-630 westbound to I-430 southbound flyover 187 ft. & 184 ft. for I-430 southbound to I-630 eastbound flyover
Weather Required to Hang Beams:	Winds below 15 mph; No lightning in area
Heaviest Planned Lift:	Two pre-connected beams totaling 193 feet in length & weighing 146,000 pounds
Distance from Surface of I-430 to Bottom of Installed Beam:	25-30 feet