

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN PHILLIPS COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (2-8) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for construction of a new Arkansas Welcome Center near Helena-West Helena, according to Commissioner John Ed Regenold of Armored. C & M Builders of Southaven, Mississippi, was awarded the contract at \$2,960,822.21.

“The new center will be located on Highway 49 about three-quarters of a mile east of the existing center. It is one of a number of Welcome Centers that have been rebuilt around the state in recent years,” stated Regenold.

Since 2001, new Arkansas Welcome Centers have been built in Blytheville, Corning, El Dorado, Fort Smith, Lake Village, Texarkana and West Memphis.

The new center at Helena-West Helena will incorporate design elements that are architecturally compatible with the local area. It will feature more space for travel information, seating areas and interactive exhibit space. The center will also feature a state-of-the-art computer kiosk, a multi-media room and a picnic area.

“I think motorists coming into Arkansas will like this new facility,” Regenold added. “Not only will the center be a nice place to stop and relax, motorists will be able to obtain all the information they need about our highways and interesting tourist destinations.”

Regenold said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. The Center is expected to be completed in late 2013.

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