INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN MISSISSIPPI COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (5-2) -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Mississippi County, according to Mississippi County Judge Randy Carney.

The purpose of the first project is to resurface selected sections of 2.3 miles of County Road 31, near Osceola, and County Road 90, near Gosnell. Delta Asphalt of Arkansas, Inc. of Paragould, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$364,628.79.

"The work on County Road 31 will begin at Highway 140 and continue northward," stated Judge Carney. "Improvements to County Road 90 will begin at Highway 181 and continue to the west."

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.

A second project calls for resurfacing 1.2 miles of Highway 140 and Highway 61 in Osceola. Delta Asphalt of Arkansas, Inc. of Paragould, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$474,904.27.

The work will be located between Highway 61 and Highway 119.

Work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on the County Road 31 and County Road 90 roadways in the summer of this year. The Highway 140/Highway 61 project should be completed in the fall of 2012.

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