INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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

LITTLE ROCK (5-2) -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Sharp County, according to Sharp County Judge Larry Brown.

The purpose of the project is to resurface approximately one mile of County Road 38, near Smithville. M.L. Jones Construction Company, Inc. of Marble Falls, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$426,102.85.

"These improvements will begin at the Lawrence County line and continue westward," stated Judge Brown.

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.

Judge Brown said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in late 2012.

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