



INFORMATION RELEASE

Office of the Director

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

LITTLE ROCK (11-28) -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Lawrence County, according to the Arkansas State Highway Commission.

The purpose of the first project is to complete the paving of the new Highway 67 south of Walnut Ridge. Weaver-Bailey Contractors, Inc., of El Paso was awarded the contract at \$20,032,388.83. Paving will begin at Highway 230 and continue northeastward to Highway 63.

The second project will replace the Black River Bridge on Highway 63 south of Black Rock. Jensen Construction Company, of Des Moines, Iowa, was awarded the contract at \$39,217,805.81. Crews will replace the existing structure with a 2,592-foot composite plate girder bridge. The new span will be built adjacent to the existing bridge, allowing that section of Highway 63 to remain open to traffic during construction.

Work on both projects could begin in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion of the Highway 63 paving is expected in the summer of 2015. Completion of the new Black Rock Bridge is expected in the summer of 2016.

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