



INFORMATION RELEASE

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State Highway 23 Reopens to Traffic

CASS, Ark. (10-15) – State Highway 23 north of Interstate 40 in Franklin County reopened to traffic this afternoon, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation (AHTD) officials.

Both northbound and southbound lanes have been paved and striped and traffic proceeding through the area is no longer governed by a portable traffic signal.

“We appreciate the patience and understanding from everyone that loves to travel this scenic highway while crews worked to repair damage caused by heavy rains in late spring,” stated AHTD Director Scott Bennett. “It is our sincere pleasure to announce this highway has reopened in time for everyone in search of the emerging fall colors.”

Last May, a slope supporting the roadbed on the east side of the highway slid due to saturation from a large amount of rain and caused large cracks to form in the northbound and southbound travel lanes, rendering both impassable. The route has been closed since.

In August, the Arkansas Highway Commission awarded a \$1.8 million contract to Kesser International, Inc. of North Little Rock to repair the 700 linear feet of State Highway 23 affected by the slide.

Motorists can expect short-duration lane closures over the next two weeks as the contractor wraps-up the project.

Additional State Highway closures can be found at www.idrivearkansas.com/closures/ or www.arkansashighways.com. Follow us on Twitter @AHTD for alerts about travel conditions throughout Arkansas.