



# INFORMATION RELEASE

## Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND  
P. O. Box 2261 – Little Rock, Arkansas  
Telephone (501) 569-2227

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
ArkansasHighways.com  
Twitter: @AHTD

**Contact:**  
**Danny Straessle/Krista Sides**

**NR 15-412**  
**December 14, 2015**

### **Structural Steel for New Broadway Bridge Arches Arriving**

**LITTLE ROCK (12-14)** – Arkansas Highway Police have issued permits to a trucking company that will enable four over-sized and over-weight loads to deliver steel needed to construct the arches of the new Broadway Bridge, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

The largest among this convoy of trucks includes steel members that are 75 feet long and weigh 85,000 pounds, manufactured in Palatka, Florida. Weather permitting, the trucks carrying the largest loads will enter the state on U.S. Highway 82 in Chicot County and travel to a staging area leased by Massman Construction Company on the north bank of the Arkansas River just east of the Clinton Presidential Park Pedestrian Bridge on **Thursday, December 17.**

Once at the first staging area, construction crews will offload and paint the steel members before loading them onto barges. Then they will be floated upstream to the second staging area, this one on the river between the Broadway and Main Street bridges. The floating staging area will be where the arches are constructed before being hoisted into place.

This delivery is the first of several with additional shipments scheduled to arrive throughout the next six months. The arches are a double-basket handle network tied arch design and are estimated to weigh 2,000 tons each once fully constructed. A conceptual rendering of the new bridge is attached.

Current construction estimates indicate that the Broadway Bridge will be closed in the late spring of 2016. The new structure will open to traffic 180 days later. Replacing the Broadway Bridge is a \$98.4 million dollar project contracted to Kansas City, Missouri-based Massman Construction Company. Work on this project began in January 2015 and is estimated to be completed in early 2017.

Drivers should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at [IDriveArkansas.com](http://IDriveArkansas.com) or [ArkansasHighways.com](http://ArkansasHighways.com). You can also follow us on [Twitter @AHTD](https://twitter.com/AHTD).