



## INFORMATION RELEASE

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

**NR 17-446**  
**November 20, 2017**

### **Rock Blasting Operations to Close Lanes on U.S. Highway 70 in Garland County**

**GARLAND COUNTY (11-20)** – Rock blasting operations will require a 20-minute closure on U.S. Highway 70 in Garland County, according to Arkansas Department of Transportation (ArDOT) officials.

Weather permitting, the rock blasting will occur once between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 21**. If there is a postponement due to weather, the blasting will occur on Wednesday, November 22. During the operations, traffic will be stopped between Shane Lane and Java Road.

Traffic on U.S. Highway 70 will be temporarily stopped as a safety precaution, and flagging operations will control traffic within the work zone. Watch for warning signs and safety personnel during the work. Motorists are encouraged to consider alternate routes during construction, including U.S. Highway 270. The public is advised to be cautious when traveling in the work zone at reduced speeds, and speeding fines double within the work zone.

This project (Job CA0610) is part of ArDOT's Connecting Arkansas Program and includes widening 17.5 miles of U.S. Highway 70 from I-30 in Benton (Exit 111) west to the interchange with U.S. Highway 70 Business in Hot Springs (Exit 6). The highway is being widened to two lanes in each direction with a continuous center turn lane. The project is anticipated to be complete in mid 2018. More information on this \$78.5 million project is available at [ConnectingArkansasProgram.com](http://ConnectingArkansasProgram.com).

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 [ArDOT.gov](http://ArDOT.gov). You can also follow us on Twitter [@myARDOT](https://twitter.com/myARDOT).

-30-

