INFORMATION RELEASE

Contact: **NR 20-292**
David Nilles   **October 8, 2020**

Western Portion of U.S. Highway 412 Bypass Opens Near Paragould

GREENE COUNTY (10-8) – The western portion of the Highway 412 Bypass at Paragould is scheduled to open to traffic this Friday afternoon October 9, according to Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) officials.

A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Friday to commemorate the opening of this section of Highway 412. As the event concludes, the roadway will systematically be opened to all travelers.

Throughout the day, traffic drums and barricades from the construction will be removed and intersections along the route will be in full operation for traffic in all directions. Drivers are reminded to pay close attention to traffic pattern changes beginning Friday as the new, permanent traffic patterns are implemented.

Construction of the western portion of the bypass was awarded to Dumey Contracting, Inc. of Benton, Missouri, in January of 2017 for $12.8 million. The eastern segment of the bypass was opened to traffic in January of 2015.

The new five-mile section connects with the eastern segment of the bypass at Highway 49 South, just south of Statler Road. The new segment extends westward for five miles and connects to Highway 412 east of Crowley's Ridge College.

"Completion of this segment of the Paragould Bypass is going to mean safer, more efficient travel for motorists in the Paragould area," stated Alec Farmer, Jr. of Jonesboro, Vice Chairman of the Arkansas Highway Commission. "The Arkansas Department of Transportation has worked for many years improving Highway 412 across Arkansas, from one side of the state to the other. This project is part of our goal to continue improving Highway 412 across northern Arkansas."

Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ARDOT.gov. You can also follow us on Twitter @myARDOT.

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