

NOTICE OF DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Job No. 050249 Hwy. 36 – Hwy. 16 White County

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD), in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will conduct an open forum Design Public Hearing to discuss the proposed design of a new highway from Highway 36 to Highway 16. The hearing will be held on Thursday, August 21, 2014, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., at the Searcy High School Cafeteria, located at 301 North Ella in Searcy.

The open forum format allows concerned citizens the opportunity to meet with representatives of AHTD, view the proposed design and ask questions concerning the proposed project. Information on the proposed right of way appraisal and acquisition procedures, as well as the environmental documentation, will be available at the hearing.

The proposed project will connect Highway 36 to Highway 16. The purpose of the proposed project is to improve east-west connectivity and to provide an additional avenue of travel north of the Searcy metro area. This project is part of a larger project to construct a new connector route that would link Highways 36, 16 and 67, in and around the City of Searcy.

A copy of the proposed design plans and the environmental assessment are available for public inspection at the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's Resident Engineers Office #55, 2015 East Line Road in Searcy or by contacting the Environmental Division at (501) 569-2281. The comment form will be available at the above locations and on the AHTD website (www.arkansashighways.com) following the public hearing.

Persons wishing to submit written statements or other exhibits may submit them to the Environmental Division, Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas, 72203. Such submissions must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, September 5, 2014.

Anyone needing project information or special accommodations under the *Americans with Disabilities Act* (ADA) is encouraged to write to Ruby Jordan-Johnson, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, call (501) 569-2379, fax (501) 569-2009 or email info@arkansashighways.com. Hearing or speech impaired persons may contact the Arkansas Relay System at (Voice/TTY 711). Requests should be made at least four (4) days prior to the public hearing.

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION: The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibit discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in the Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to Joanna P. McFadden Section Head- EEO/DBE (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: Joanna.Mcfadden@arkansashighways.com

This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.