INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN POLK COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (1-9) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Polk County, according to Commissioner Jonathan Barnett of Siloam Springs.

The purpose of the project is to improve traffic signals at various intersections along Highway 71 in the city of Mena. All Service Electric, Inc. of Hot Springs, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$255,939.90.

"This is the second phase of projects to coordinate the signals on Highway 71," stated Barnett. "We will be adjusting the timing of the signals to improve traffic coordination along Highway 71 at the intersections with Highway 8 West, Highway 8 East and Cherry Street. We are also adding wheelchair ramps at the intersections in order to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) standards."

Barnett said work could begin on the project in six to eight weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected in late 2009.

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