INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN PULASKI COUNTY

LITTLE ROCK (11-16) -- The Arkansas State Highway Commission has opened bids for improvements to a roadway in Pulaski County, according to Commission Chairman Carl Rosenbaum of Little Rock.

The project is located at the Interstate 430/630 Interchange in Little Rock and will construct Phase Three of the bridge and roadway improvements to the interchange. Manhattan Road & Bridge Company of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Weaver Bailey Contractors, Inc. of El Paso, Arkansas, were awarded the contract at \$78,123,925.30.

"This third phase of improvements will include construction of a bridge on Interstate 630 to carry traffic over Shackleford Road to Financial Center Parkway," stated Rosenbaum. "Other construction includes a new Baptist Hospital/Lile Drive overpass over Interstate 630, a flyover ramp to carry traffic from Interstate 430 southbound to Interstate 630 eastbound and completion of the widening of travel lanes on 630 and 430."

"Phase One is substantially completed and Phase Two is projected to be finished at the end of this year," Rosenbaum added.

The contract to construct Phase Three is the largest contract ever awarded for a state highway construction project.

A fourth phase is planned that will include a second flyover ramp but it has yet to be scheduled.

Rosenbaum said work could begin on the project in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on Phase Three in mid 2012.

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