

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

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**NR12-082**  
**July 11, 2012**

### **RIVER TRAIL BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON CANTRELL ROAD IS CLOSED TEMPORARILY**

**LITTLE ROCK (7-11)** – A construction project to make safety improvements to a curve on Highway 10 (Cantrell Road) near downtown Little Rock has required a temporary closure of the River Trail bicycle/pedestrian path in the area where it utilizes the Union Pacific Railroad Viaduct on Cantrell Road and approximately one block west of the viaduct, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

The closing of the bicycle/pedestrian crossing is currently in place and will remain for approximately one week. The remainder of the River Trail is still open for use, only the portion of the bicycle/pedestrian crossing near the Union Pacific Railroad viaduct and one block of the trail west of the viaduct are closed to bicyclists.

The AHTD awarded a \$466,581 contract to Redstone Construction Group, Inc. in May to make improvements to a sharp curve on LaHarpe just west of the viaduct and east of Dillards Corporate Headquarters. The curve has been the site of numerous accidents over the years, mostly involving vehicles running off the road. The project will make the curve less sharp, which AHTD officials believe will make the area safer.

The temporary closing of the bicycle/pedestrian trail in the area is needed to allow the contractor to remove and replace curbs, sidewalks and drainage structures. Once the initial work is complete, in approximately one week, a temporary crossing will be in place and the trail crossing will reopen. The roadway work will continue for about two more months.

“The contractor on this job is a cyclist and a user of the River Trail himself,” said AHTD Director Scott Bennett, “so he is very conscious of the impacts of closing the Cantrell crossing.”

Motorists and bicyclists should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones.

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