

# INFORMATION RELEASE



## Office of the Director

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT  
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### **ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OPENS BIDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN SEBASTIAN COUNTY**

**LITTLE ROCK (5-2)** -- The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department has opened bids for improvements to roadways in Sebastian County, according to Sebastian County Judge David Hudson.

The first project will construct embankments on .6 miles of Highway 71 on new location near Fort Chafee, and construct an overpass bridge at the interchange of Highway 71 and County Road 8. Crossland Construction Company, Inc. of Columbus, Kansas, was awarded the contract at \$17,173,759.98.

The work will be part of future Interstate 49 around the Fort Smith area once completed.

The purpose of the second project is to resurface 5.6 miles of County Road 16, near Mansfield. Forsgren, Inc. of Fort Smith, Arkansas, was awarded the contract at \$786,238.99.

“These improvements will begin at Highway 45 and continue eastward to the Mansfield city limits,” stated Judge Hudson.

The County Road project is funded through the State Aid Road Program established by the legislature and administered by the State Aid Division of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. This program provides approximately \$20 million annually from the state motor fuels tax to assist counties with projects of their choosing on the county road system.

Work could begin on the projects in two to four weeks, weather permitting. Completion is expected on Highway 71 on new location in early 2014. Improvements to County Road 16 should be completed in the summer of this year.

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