

INFORMATION RELEASE



Office of the Director

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PREFERRED ROUTE IDENTIFIED FOR HIGHWAY 25 NORTH OF I-40 IN CONWAY

LITTLE ROCK (8-15) – The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) has identified a preferred alternative for a new connection from I-40 to Highway 25 in northwestern Conway, according to AHTD officials.

Following a review of comments received as a result of a public meeting held August 9, 2012, to discuss the project, the Red Alternative (see enclosed map) has been identified as the alternative that best meets the purpose and need of the project. The Red route is the shortest in length, the least expensive to construct, and will relocate the fewest residents.

A new full interchange on I-40 (Exit 124) opened to traffic in 2008 approximately one mile west of the outdated partial interchange that previously provided Interstate access to Highway 25 north. This interchange was designed to accommodate access to Highway 25 at a later date. Two new location alternatives were subsequently evaluated – the preferred Red alternative, and the Yellow alternative that more closely followed existing Highway 25. The 'No Action' alternative was also considered but was determined to be the least desirable option.

The Red route has a project length of 1.1 miles and will cost approximately \$5.5 million to construct, compared to 1.3 miles and \$6.5 million for the Yellow route. It is also estimated that the Red route will relocate three residences, versus seven for the Yellow route. Project costs for the new roadway will be shared equally between the AHTD, the City of Conway, and Faulkner County, according to a partnership agreement between the three entities.

A design public hearing will be held in the coming months to provide more detailed information and give area residents another chance to comment on the project. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2015.

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EXIT 124

Conway



August 9, 2013
AHTD Environmental GIS - Strawn

Job 080397
Hwy. 25 Relocation
(I-40 North)
Faulkner County

- Preferred Alternative
- Yellow Alternative