



INFORMATION RELEASE

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CONSTRUCTION WORK REQUIRES INTERSTATE 540 LANE CLOSURES IN FORT SMITH

FORT SMITH (3-17) - Construction work will require lane closures on Interstate 540 in Fort Smith, according to the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation (AHTD) officials.

The lane closure will extend from the Arkansas/Oklahoma State Line to the U.S. Highway 71 Interchange.

The lane closure will begin **Wednesday, March 18th**. It will occur each day beginning at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 6:00 a.m., the next day. The lane closure is anticipated to be in place daily and will be removed when no work is being performed.

Adjustment of the dates of the planned lane closure may be required due to weather or other unforeseen traffic conditions.

Motorists are advised to consider alternate routes to reduce congestion in the work zone.

In January 2015, the Arkansas Highway Commission awarded a contract in the amount of \$1,798,715 to Diamond Surface, Inc. of Rogers, MN. The project will repair and rehabilitate the concrete pavement on the interstate roadway and on the exit and entrance ramps of the U.S. 271, Jenny Lind, and U.S. 71 Interchanges. Work on the project is expected to be complete in the summer of 2015.

Remember, the speed limit in the work zone is reduced from 65 miles per hour to 60 miles per hour for the safety of the construction workers and motorists. Increased traffic enforcement is scheduled in the work area and, under Arkansas law; fines are doubled for violations in the work zone.

Motorists should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ArkansasHighways.com. You can also follow us on [Twitter@AHTD](https://twitter.com/AHTD).

