

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





Arkadelphia Bypass Construction

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ARKANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION



Commission Chairman Alec Farmer

Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed Alec Farmer, a Jonesboro native, to a ten-year term on the Arkansas State Highway Commission in January 2015. He currently serves as Chairman. He is operator of Farmer Enterprises, Inc., a family-owned farm and property investment and management company. He is also a licensed attorney in the state of Arkansas. Farmer serves on the boards of Arkansas Blue Cross Blue Shield, E.C. Barton & Company and Childress Gin and Elevator Co. He has previously served on several state boards including as Chairman on the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, as a special commissioner on the Arkansas State Police Commission and as an original member of the Arkansas Agricultural Board. He served as past chairman of the Craighead Conservation District, as Finance Committee chair for the Jonesboro City Council, as a board member for Jonesboro City Water & Light (municipal utility district) and the Jonesboro Regional Chamber of Commerce. Farmer is an inductee into the AACD Arkansas Conservation Hall of Fame and a recipient of the Arkansas State University Distinguished Alumni Award. He graduated from Arkansas State University receiving his B.S. degree in 1986. He received his J.D. degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law and served on the Law Review's editorial board. He and his wife Carole live in Jonesboro and together they have four daughters. His term on the Commission expires in January 2025.



Vice Chairman Philip Taldo

Philip Taldo, of Springdale, was appointed to the Arkansas Highway Commission by Governor Asa Hutchinson in 2017. He started his real estate career in 1978, began working with Gary Griffin in 1980 and became partners in 1983. He is co-owner of Weichert-Griffin Realtors, Partners Construction and Colonial Properties. In addition, he is the President of One Springdale, Inc., a development corporation. Taldo is a Hope Cancer Resource Foundation Trustee and also serves as an Arvest Bank Director, Arkansas Economic Development Commissioner, board member of NWA Regional Airport Authority and UAMS Northwest Advisory Board. He is also a member of the Arkansas Realtors Association, Rotary Club of Springdale and St. Raphael's Catholic Church. His term on the Commission will expire in January 2027.



Commissioner Keith Gibson

Commissioner Keith Gibson, of Fort Smith, was appointed by Governor Asa Hutchinson effective January 15 of 2019. Gibson is the former President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lavaca Telephone Company, Inc., an Independent Local Exchange Company serving rural areas in western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma with broadband and landline telephone service. He had been president of Lavaca Telephone Company since 1986. He was also president of Pinnacle Telecom which provides broadband, voice and other telecom and Internet Access Services in Arkansas and Oklahoma. He was co-founder and a member of the Board of Directors of Benefit Bank in Fort Smith where he also served on the Audit Committee. The bank is now Armstrong Bank. He is past president of the Arkansas Telecommunications Association, the Oklahoma Telephone Association and the Lavaca, Arkansas Industrial Development Corporation. He is also licensed to practice law in Arkansas. His term on the Arkansas Highway Commission will expire in January 2029.



Commissioner Marie Holder

Marie Holder is currently serving on the Arkansas Highway Commission. Holder was appointed to the Arkansas Highway Commission on March 12, 2020, to fulfill the remainder of the late Commission Chairman Tom Schueck's term. Holder served the remainder of Schueck's appointment until it expired on January 14, 2021. She was reappointed to a new 10-year term on January 15, 2021. Recently, she concluded her work on the Arkansas Women's Commission, analyzing the role of Arkansas women in the labor market and economy. Prior to joining the Highway Commission, Marie served on the Arkansas State Medical Board where she represented patient interests as the consumer representative. Marie is the former Finance Director for Asa for Governor, AsaPAC and Executive Director of the Republican Party of Arkansas. Early in her career, she worked as Deputy Press Secretary to U.S. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott. In 2023, Marie was honored to be asked to serve on the Arkansas Inaugural Committee by Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders. She was also honored as Member of the Year by WTS International, seeking to promote lifelong careers in transportation-attracting, retaining and advancing women in the industry. In her free time, she enjoys working with organizations that support young women, including local chapters of Delta Gamma Sorority, Daughters of the American Revolution and the Juliet Circle of Girl Scouts. She is active in Second Presbyterian Church where she has been ordained as an elder and deacon. Marie, her husband Ryan and their two daughters live in Little Rock. Holder's term on the Commission will expire on January 14, 2031.



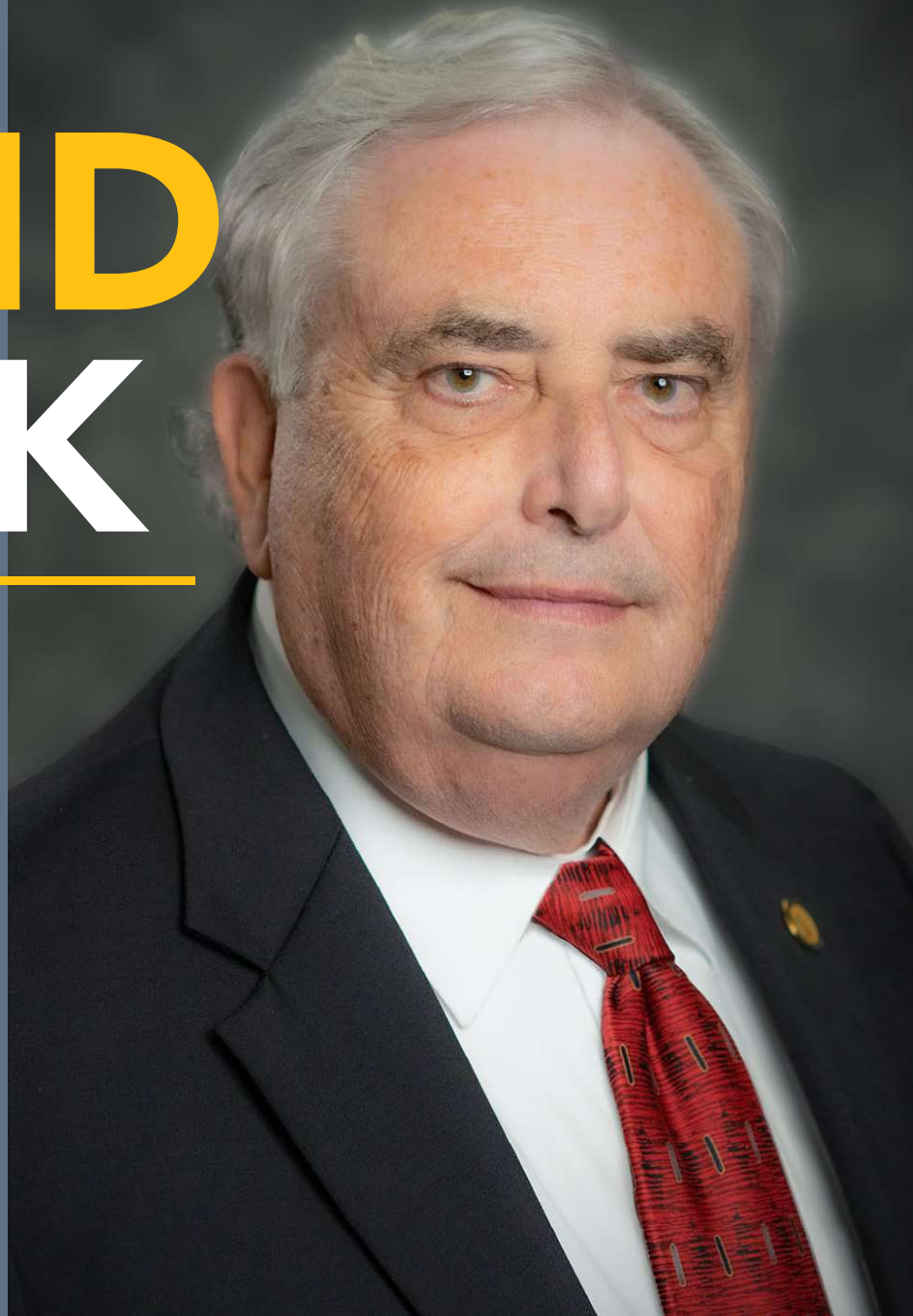
Commissioner David Haak

David Haak of Texarkana was appointed to the Arkansas Highway Commission by Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders in January 2023. Haak is a graduate of Henderson State University and is the owner of First Tape and Label in Texarkana. Haak has previously served many roles in public service including the Texarkana Arkansas Zoning and Planning Commission, the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce, where he served as Chairman in 2008, and Texarkana Arkansas City Council. At the state level, Haak has served on the Arkansas Waterways Commission, Arkansas Economic Development Commission and was a member of the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1999-2004. He and his wife Debbie have been married for over 50 years and are longstanding members of Beech Street First Baptist Church. They have one daughter, Jennifer, son-in-law Michael and three young adult grandchildren. Since turning the operations of the business over to his daughter, Haak can be found on his pecan farm on most days. His term on the Commission will expire in January 2033.

DAVID HAAK

NAMED NEW

ARKANSAS
HIGHWAY
COMMISSIONER



"David's lifetime of **public service, community involvement and strong leadership** will make him an asset to the Commission."

-Governor Sanders

DAVID HAAK OF TEXARKANA HAS BEEN NAMED TO THE ARKANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION BY GOVERNOR SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS. HE WAS SWORN IN ON FEBRUARY 14, 2023, AT THE MILLER COUNTY COURTHOUSE BY JUDGE CATHY HARDIN HARRISON WITH CLOSE FAMILY IN ATTENDANCE.

“David’s lifetime of public service, community involvement and strong leadership will make him an asset to the Commission,” Governor Sanders shared.

Haak served in the Arkansas House of Representatives from 1999-2004. During that time, he served on numerous committees including the Joint Budget Committee, Revenue and Tax Committee, and State Agencies and Government Affairs Committee. He also served on the Arkansas Economic Development Commission from 2005-2008 and on the Arkansas Waterways Commission in 2021.

As a lifelong resident of Texarkana, Haak has always valued community involvement and civic engagement. He has served on the Texarkana Arkansas City Council, as a Texarkana Chamber of Commerce board member and on the Texarkana Arkansas Zoning and Planning Commission. He was also named the Texarkana Arkansas School District “Distinguished Alumni” in 2006 and the Texas A&M Texarkana “Entrepreneur of the Year” in 1990. Haak started and owns a label business in Texarkana, First Tape & Label.

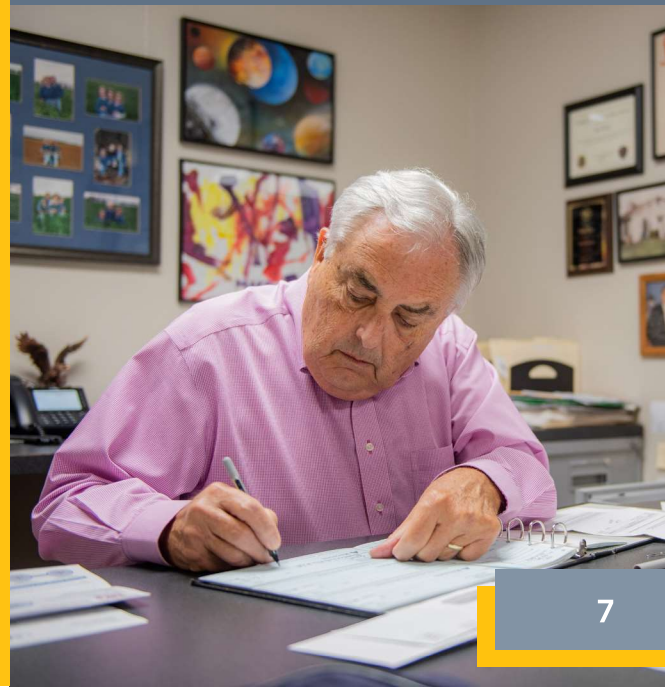
“I’m looking forward to the next 10 years,” said Commissioner Haak. “I know there is going to be a lot of work, but this is going to be fun. I plan to visit each county in my region of responsibility and meet with mayors, judges and community members.”

Haak will serve on the Commission until January 2033.



“I’m looking forward to the next 10 years, **I know there is going to be a lot of work**, but this is going to be fun. I plan to visit each county in my region of responsibility and **meet with mayors, judges, and community members.**”

-Commissioner Haak



300 TONS OF FUN ROLLS THROUGH SOUTH ARKANSAS

Most drivers have been caught in traffic behind oversized loads on the Interstate at some point. Usually, there are escort cars with flashing yellow lights, and traffic moves at a much slower pace. Oversized load escorts can be routine or extremely complex depending on the size and weight of the load.

Recently, the Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) assisted a transportation escort company with a unique request. "We were asked to help with the movement of a 300-ton kiln through narrow areas of state highways," said AHP Captain Ross Batson.

The kiln had to be transported 124 miles from Crossett to Gum Springs across south Arkansas. The movement took one year to plan and coordinate with Barnhart Crane & Rigging of Memphis, Tenn. There were obstacles and challenges along the way because of the rare dimensions of the haul. The loaded truck stood over 22 feet high and 23 feet wide.

"I'm glad we were able to close down certain sections of the highways during the process," said Batson. "In some areas, both lanes needed to be closed and power lines had to be raised to accommodate the safe movement of the truck."

Additional coordination was required with ARDOT bridge inspectors. Careful consideration is required when moving that much weight across smaller bridges. According to Tammy Herman, staff engineer with the Bridge Division, ARDOT uses a specialized automated system to analyze the load weight and

measurements of the bridges along the route. "District inspection staff were also there on-site to inspect the support structure underneath the bridges," said Herman.

Inspectors also took pictures and gathered videos during and after the move. "We are careful to check for any changes to the structure. The information is then gathered into a database for further analysis," said Herman.

"I've been doing this for 30 years. I've moved gigantic equipment all over the United States, and I have to say that ARDOT and the AHP set the new bar for excellence," said Tim Fields of Barnhart Crane & Rigging. "Everyone from the bridge inspectors, engineers from Districts 3 and 7, and AHP employees Lela Cook and Captain Batson made this movement a success."

The escort was something of an online sensation too. According to Ellen Coulter, ARDOT's Media Communications Manager, posts about the kiln were seen more than 9 million times on Facebook. "The kiln coverage on social media received much more attention than I ever thought it would. The vast majority of the comments were fun and positive. It was so cute to see schools take field trips to see the kiln as it passed through their towns," said Coulter. "They were tracking it like they do the Santa Tracker during the holidays!"

"I've moved gigantic equipment all over the United States, and I have to say that ARDOT and the Arkansas Highway Police set the new bar for excellence."

-Tim Feilds



ARDOT ARCHAEOLOGIST

FINDS ANCIENT ARTIFACTS AT FUTURE CONSTRUCTION SITE

Arkansas Highway 112 was constructed in 1926 and ran from Fayetteville north to an area south of Johnson for just over two miles. The area may seem remote but so much history can be found there. The route is listed as part of the Arkansas Trail of Tears northern route, and it closely follows the path taken during the Civil War.

The highway was paved in 1948 and was extended to Bentonville in 1951. It is estimated that the populations in Benton and Washington Counties will double by 2045. As Northwest Arkansas has expanded, so has the need to widen Highway 112.

Before new construction or widening projects could take place on the highway, an environmental study was required. While identifying a location for a new roundabout at Greathouse Spring, an area located just west of Johnson, ARDOT Lead Cultural Resource Specialist Jason Eads found artifacts that date back thousands of years.

"I knew we were near an archaeological site, because in the late 1970s the Arkansas Archaeological Survey had recorded the spring near Clear Creek," said Eads. The Commonwealth Heritage Group consulting firm was brought in to conduct additional testing for Phase Two and Phase Three

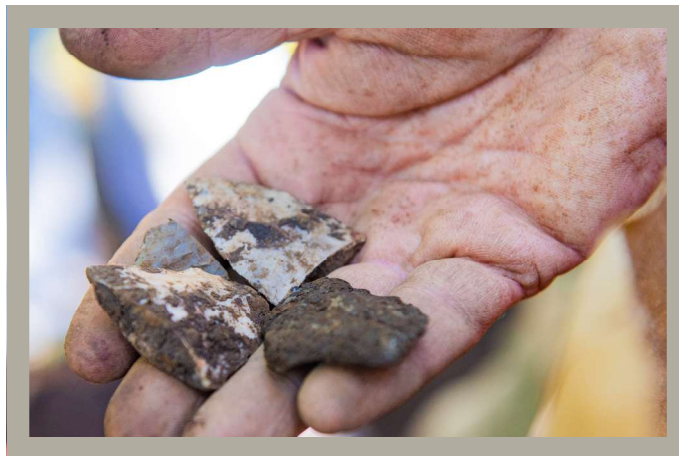
of the project because additional manpower was needed to excavate the site.

"I found over a thousand artifacts, so I knew this was significant," Eads added. "An artifact is anything that has been manipulated by humans. I found stone chips that were used to make tools and projectile fragments that I could date back to the Archaic Period, which is anywhere from 1,500 to 3,000 years ago."

The prehistoric period was before Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto crossed the Mississippi River and before Christopher Columbus discovered the Americas. Phase Two

testing featured more digging until the crew reached sterile soil. The findings yielded even more artifacts that date back to 6,000 years ago. "They found stone features, a fire-cracked rock used for cooking, and charcoal, which is a good indicator that this was a large open-air cookhouse," said Eads.

During that period of time, humans were relatively evolved. Metals were used in Asia, the Bronze Age was underway and the Egyptian Pyramids were being built, so these were not prehistoric cavemen. Travel was likely not as important during that era, but humans were largely hunters and gatherers. They likely returned to the same stream for many generations. The climate was dry, so the cool water was a welcome sight to both animals and humans. Additional testing showed evidence of white oak, red oak, hickory, acorn shells and stones used to crush nuts. Similar widening projects have offered us a window into the past.



"With big projects such as the Springdale Bypass, Interstate 57 construction, and Interstate 69 down south, we tend to find artifacts," said Eads.

ARDOT places an emphasis on reaching out to Native American tribes when historical archaeological sites are located. Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

requires federal agencies to consult with tribes where projects could affect tribal areas with historical or cultural significance. During the scoping process, the Federal Highway Administration initiated tribal coordination with the tribes that have an active cultural interest in the area. The Tribal Historic Preservation Officers were given the opportunity to comment on the proposed project. The Caddo Nation was the only tribe to respond, and they had no concerns regarding the proposed project. The stream can still be found along Highway 112, but construction on the roundabout will likely not begin until 2025.



Resurface & Extend Highway 83

TOP CONTRACTS



Providing safe and efficient transportation solutions to support Arkansas' economy and enhance the quality of life for future generations is ArDOT's mission. Crews worked in all 75 counties within Arkansas in 2023 to provide a highway network that is safe for motorists traveling throughout the State.

Top Contracts Awarded in 2023 by Amount:

Project	County	Amount
Springdale Bypass	Benton & Washington	\$180,787,344
Highway 67 Widening	Lonoke	\$116,993,040
Highway 7 Reconstruction & 4 Bridge Overlays	Mississippi	\$94,202,244
Greenwood Bypass	Sebastian	\$57,849,903
Wrong Way Detection System	Various	\$54,698,390
Highways 270 and 365 Spur Widening	Jefferson	\$45,217,967
Interstate 40 Overlay	Johnson & Pope	\$42,913,339
Interstate 49 Overlay Including 20 Bridges	Washington	\$37,360,894
Replacing 2 Structures on Highways 13 & 31	Lonoke	\$33,534,357
Resurface & Extend Highway 83 Spur & Construct 2 Roundabouts	Drew	\$30,114,150

Total Amount by Year:

Year	Projects	Amount
2016*†	263	\$1,212,817,331
2017*†	249	\$512,101,932
2018*†	268	\$878,178,919
2019†	201	\$664,716,322
2020*†	271	\$883,184,382
2021†	195	\$487,220,765
2022†	231	\$1,154,751,671
2023	267	\$1,464,015,469

*Includes IRP projects authorized by a half-cent sales tax increase in 2012.

† Includes CAP projects authorized by a half-cent sales tax increase in 2012.

PROGRAMS IN PROGRESS



Renew Arkansas Highways Program

Beginning July 1, 2023 ARDOT started receiving revenue from the permanent half cent sales tax for Arkansas' roads and bridges. This stable source of revenue was approved by voters in 2020 and allows ARDOT to begin the Renew Arkansas Highways Program. This program provides significant funding to improve the State Highway System and will result in significant progress towards bringing the State Highway System into a state of good repair and fund major capital and congestion relief projects designed to promote economic development.

Recreational Trails Program

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is a competitive grant program that provides funding to develop and maintain recreational trails and trail-related facilities for both non-motorized and motorized recreational trail uses. RTP funds benefit recreation, including hiking, bicycling, equestrian use, off-road motorcycling, all-terrain vehicle riding, four-wheel driving, or using other off-road motorized vehicles. In 2023, 14 projects were awarded for \$2 million.

Connecting Arkansas Program

In 2012, through a voter-approved constitutional amendment, the people of Arkansas passed a 10-year, half-cent sales tax to improve highway and infrastructure projects throughout the State. The resulting Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP) is one of the largest highway construction programs ever undertaken by ARDOT. Thirty-one projects in 19 corridors have improved Arkansas' transportation system by expanding selected two-lane roadways to four-lane highways and adding new lanes to identified Interstate highways. At year's end, 28 completed projects improved approximately 150 miles of highway at a cost of \$1.1 billion. The final three projects are under construction to improve 15 miles at \$872.5 million.

Transportation Alternatives Program

The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) is a competitive grant program that provides funding for a variety of transportation projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities; overlooks, community improvements such as historic preservation, and habitat connectivity; recreational trails; safe routes to school projects; and vulnerable road user safety assessments. In 2023, 47 projects were awarded for \$15 million.

CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS



HIGHWAY 1B RESURFACING



HIGHWAY 83 SPUR TO HIGHWAY 278 CONNECTOR

DISTRICT ONE

COUNTIES: CRITTENDEN, CROSS, LEE, MONROE, PHILLIPS, ST. FRANCIS, WOODRUFF

HIGHWAY 163 WEST RECONSTRUCTION

Sugg Construction was awarded this \$3.5 million project for a 2.9-mile section of County Roads 53 and 140 in Cross County. The project involved a full-depth pavement section that filled in an unpaved gap on each end, realigned the route for safer travel and provided stable shoulders in areas that had previously been paved.

HIGHWAY 1B RESURFACING

APAC-Tennessee, Inc. was awarded this \$7.7 million pavement preservation project. The project was a mill and inlay of eight miles of Highway 1B through Forrest City. The project improved the cross-slope and substantially improved drainage as well.

DISTRICT TWO

COUNTIES: ARKANSAS, ASHLEY, CHICOT, DESHA, DREW, GRANT, JEFFERSON, LINCOLN

HIGHWAY 83 SPUR TO HIGHWAY 278 CONNECTOR

This \$30 million project to construct a north-south connector between Highway 83 Spur and Highway 278 is currently under construction. The job was awarded to Mobley Contractors, Inc. and has an estimated completion date of early 2026. This project will follow Scogin Drive for over half a mile, then it will extend on new location for almost one mile until it connects with Highway 278. This project includes the construction of two roundabouts and a railroad overpass. This new route will provide quicker, more reliable access to schools and medical care. The overpass guarantees cars and emergency vehicles will not be delayed by passing trains.

HIGHWAYS 270 AND 365S WIDENING

Redstone Construction Group, Inc. was awarded this \$45 million project to widen 4.8 miles of Highway 270 and Highway 365S to five lanes between Highway 104 and Highway 365 (Dollarway Road). The expected completion date is late 2025.



BRIDGE REPLACEMENT IN GLENWOOD



SILVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

DISTRICT THREE

COUNTIES: HEMPSTEAD, HOWARD, LAFAYETTE, LITTLE RIVER, MILLER, NEVADA, PIKE, SEVIER

THREE BRIDGE REPLACEMENTS

This is a large bridge project replacing three structures. The first bridge is on Highway 278 over the Saline River in Howard County. The second bridge is on Highway 70 over the Caddo River in Glenwood in Pike County. The third bridge is on Highway 70 over the Saline River in Howard and Sevier Counties. Manhattan Road & Bridge Company was awarded the contract for \$20.5 million. The estimated completion date is late 2024.

OVERLAY ON HIGHWAYS 108 AND 296

This project will mill and overlay 11.5 miles of Highways 108 and 296 in Texarkana in Miller County and add safety features. The project was awarded to R.K. Hall, LLC. for \$10.3 million. The estimated completion date is early-mid 2024.

OVERLAY ON HIGHWAY 278

This project milled and overlaid 6 miles of Highway 278 in Hempstead County and added safety features such as new gravel shoulders, new guardrail and end terminals, and new pavement markings. The project was awarded to Redstone Construction Group, Inc., for \$4.5 million.

DISTRICT FOUR

COUNTIES: CRAWFORD, FRANKLIN, POLK, SCOTT, SEBASTIAN, WASHINGTON

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION ON HIGHWAYS 71 AND 71B

Blackstone Construction completed work on a \$13.3 million pavement preservation project on Highways 71 and 71B in Scott County. This project resurfaced 19.6 miles of roadway north and south of Waldron.

SILVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

Manhattan Road & Bridge was awarded an \$8.9 million contract to replace the historic "Silver Bridge" between Crawford and Franklin Counties. The estimated completion date is mid-2025.



SPRING RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT



HOT SPRINGS BYPASS

DISTRICT FIVE

COUNTIES: CLEBURNE, FULTON, INDEPENDENCE, IZARD, JACKSON, SHARP, STONE, WHITE

PAVEMENT PRESERVATION ON HIGHWAY 37

Atlas Asphalt was awarded a \$6.2 million pavement preservation project on Highway 37 in Jackson County. This project included some minor widening and incorporated a redesigned curve just east of Tuckerman. The realignment of the curve was part of a partnership between Jackson County and ARDOT to improve this route for truck traffic, among other things.

SPRING RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

West Plains Bridge & Grading, LLC was awarded a \$3.49 million contract to replace a bridge on County Road 42 in Fulton County. This project replaced a low-water crossing at the Spring River that was over 100 years old. Located just outside of Hardy, this vital infrastructure project connected Fulton and Sharp Counties, fostering safer and more convenient travel between the two counties across the scenic Spring River.

DISTRICT SIX

COUNTIES: GARLAND, HOT SPRING, LONOKE, PRAIRIE, PULASKI, SALINE

HIGHWAY 10 WIDENING

Awarded to Kiewit Infrastructure South, this \$81 million project included a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI), widening of Highway 10 and various assets to improve traffic flow between Highway 10, Rodney Parham and Interstate 430. Part of this project was named in honor of former Arkansas Highway Commissioner Thomas Shueck.

HOT SPRINGS BYPASS

The Hot Springs Bypass consists of 5.8 miles of new location in Garland County, connecting Highway 70 East to Highway 7 North. This new location roadway has reduced delays and improved safety by removing through traffic from Highway 7. The new portion of the bypass will be signed as Highway 5. The Arkansas State Legislature designated the Bypass as a Scenic Highway due to its beautiful, steep, tree-lined views through the Ouachita Mountains. This job was awarded to McGeorge Contracting Company, Inc. for \$75 million.

HIGHWAY 5 WIDENING

Redstone Construction Group, Inc., was awarded this \$17.4 million job to widen approximately 2.3 miles of Highway 5 in Saline County, add a retaining wall, and install traffic signals.



ARKADELPHIA BYPASS



MAYFLOWER OVERPASS

DISTRICT SEVEN

COUNTIES: BRADLEY, CALHOUN, CLARK, CLEVELAND, COLUMBIA, DALLAS, OUACHITA, UNION

ARKADELPHIA BYPASS

The Arkadelphia Bypass project in Clark County was awarded to McGeorge Contracting Company for \$56 million. The estimated completion date is late 2026.

HIGHWAY 51 BRIDGE

Kiewit Infrastructure South was awarded the \$11.3 million contract to construct a new Highway 51 Bridge over Interstate 30 in Clark County.

HIGHWAY 82 WIDENING

D&J Construction Company was awarded a \$46.8 million contract to widen six miles of Highway 82 in Union County west of El Dorado. The project included a new box culvert and bridge structure.

DISTRICT EIGHT

COUNTIES: CONWAY, FAULKNER, JOHNSON, MONTGOMERY, PERRY, POPE, VAN BUREN, LOGAN, YELL

MAYFLOWER OVERPASS

Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. completed construction of a railroad and interstate overpass in Mayflower. The \$26 million project also relocated a portion of Highway 89 and replaced a smaller bridge with a box culvert.

HIGHWAY 65 PAVEMENT PRESERVATION

This \$22 million pavement preservation project was awarded to Rogers Group, Inc. The project resurfaced the driving lanes with an Ultrathin Bonded Wearing Course for approximately 22.2 miles of Interstate 40 in Faulkner and Pulaski Counties between Highway 65 in Conway and Interstate 430 in North Little Rock.

INTERSTATE 40 RESURFACING

This \$18 million pavement preservation project was awarded to Blackstone Construction, LLC. The project resurfaced approximately 10 miles of Interstate 40 in Pope County.



HIGHWAYS 65 AND 43 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT



INTERSTATE 555 RECONSTRUCTION

DISTRICT NINE

COUNTIES: BAXTER, BENTON, BOONE, CARROLL, MADISON, MARION, NEWTON, SEARCY

HIGHWAYS 65 AND 43 INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT

This \$2.15 million intersection improvement project was awarded to Crouse Construction Company and included improvements to the intersection of Highways 65 and 43 in Boone County.

HIGHWAY 187 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT

West Plains Bridge & Grading, LLC was awarded this \$3.6 million project to replace a single bridge structure on Highway 187 in Carroll County. The estimated completion date is fall 2025.

DISTRICT TEN

COUNTIES: CLAY, CRAIGHEAD, GREENE, LAWRENCE, MISSISSIPPI, POINSETT, RANDOLPH

INTERSTATE 555 RECONSTRUCTION

This \$38 million job in Craighead County was awarded to White River Materials, Inc. The project included reconstructing 4.7 miles of Interstate 555 from Southwest Drive to Dan Avenue in Jonesboro.

OVERLAY OF THE ORIGINAL CONCRETE ON INTERSTATE

Delta Asphalt of Arkansas, Inc. was awarded this \$39 million project. The purpose of this job is to rubbilize and overlay the last original concrete pavement section of Interstate 55 in Mississippi County. The estimated completion date is mid-2024.

INTERSTATE 55 RECONSTRUCTION

Delta Asphalt of Arkansas, Inc. was awarded this \$94.2 million contract in Mississippi County. The purpose of this job is to reconstruct 7.8 miles and overlay four bridges on Interstate 55. The estimated completion date is mid-2026.

2023 EVENTS



SPECIAL EVENTS & DEDICATIONS



New County Judges Orientation | *Little Rock*

The Arkansas Department of Transportation hosted an orientation for 38 newly elected County Judges at its Central Office. The presentation was delivered by Director Lorie Tudor and covered several topics, including the organizational structure of ARDOT, an overview of the Highway Commission, state and federal funding, and the ongoing mission of the department to maintain Arkansas highways and bridges. The County Judges, most of whom were visiting ARDOT for the first time, welcomed the tour with enthusiasm.



Third Tip of the CAP | *Bentonville*

The Bentonville 'Tip of the CAP' event celebrated highway improvements in Northwest Arkansas made possible by the half-cent sales tax revenue dedicated to road and bridge projects. In 2012, Arkansas voters approved a constitutional amendment that established a 10-year, half-cent sales tax intended for road and bridge improvements. This resulted in the Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP). The CAP is one of the largest highway construction programs undertaken by the ARDOT.



Cantrell Road / Highway 10 | Little Rock

A portion of the Highway 10 (Cantrell Road) Corridor was officially dedicated as the Thomas B. Schueck Highway. Schueck served as a member of the Arkansas Highway Commission from 2011 until his death in 2020, at which time he was serving as Chairman of the Commission. Throughout his tenure, Schueck was a tireless advocate for improvements to the State Highway System. Highway 10/Cantrell Road is a thoroughfare connecting the northern and western parts of Little Rock and Pulaski County. This widening project helped

ease traffic through this heavily traveled urban corridor. ARDOT served as the lead designer for the overall project and awarded the construction contract to the Kiewit Infrastructure South at a cost of \$81 million.



Fourth Tip of the CAP | Little Rock

The last of the four statewide 'Tip of the CAP' celebrations was held in Little Rock to showcase the 31 Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP) projects made possible by the half-cent sales tax revenue dedicated to road and bridge projects. The CAP projects were pledged in 2012 by ARDOT to be completed or underway within the next 10 years. ARDOT made good on that promise and is now "tipping its CAP" to all those who helped make these infrastructure improvements possible.



HIGHWAY 167 | El Dorado

A nearly 100-mile stretch of Highway 167 from Saline County to Union County was dedicated in honor of former Arkansas Highway Commissioner Madison Murphy. Murphy served on the Arkansas Highway Commission from 2003 to 2013, ending his term as Chairman of the Commission. Murphy has been a staunch advocate for improvements to the Arkansas Highway System, not only for his home region of southern Arkansas but for the entire state. He played a key role in promoting the

importance of the 2012 temporary, half-cent sales tax that funded the Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP), one of the largest highway construction programs ever undertaken by ARDOT. Highway 167, the primary north-south route carrying traffic through the south-central portion of Arkansas, benefited from several widening projects funded by the CAP. Because of Murphy's advocacy for Highway 167 and the CAP, Highway 167 is now a four-lane connection between South and Central Arkansas, which increases safety and mobility.



UPRR Overpass | *Mayflower*

The project was the result of a successful partnership between the City of Mayflower, Faulkner County, Metroplan, Union Pacific, and ArDOT. The \$27 million project by Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. involved the construction of a railroad overpass and the replacement of a bridge structure with a reinforced concrete box culvert. The new bypass connects Highways 89 and 365 and includes a new overpass over Interstate 40 and the Union Pacific railroad tracks. The completed project will help eliminate traffic delays while trains travel the tracks through town.



Interstate 40 Truck Parking | *West Memphis*

This new parking facility features 84 spaces for overnight parking to help alleviate the truck parking shortage across the country. Weaver-Bailey Contractors, Inc. was awarded the contract for just over \$6 million. A future ArDOT construction project will add restrooms and an Arkansas Highway Police substation to the facility.



Hot Springs Bypass | *Hot Springs*

The Arkansas State Legislature designated this new bypass as a Scenic Highway due to its beautiful, steep, tree-lined views through the Ouachita Mountains. This portion of the Hot Springs Bypass consists of 5.8 miles of new location in Garland County, connecting Highway 70 East to Highway 7 North. The new portion of the bypass is signed as Highway 5 and reduce delays and improve safety by removing through traffic from Highway 7. The project was awarded to McGeorge Contracting Co., Inc. for just over

\$75 million. Garland County contributed \$30 million toward the project cost as part of a partnering agreement with ArDOT.



Spring River Bridge | Hardy

Located on County Road 42, this new bridge replaced a low-water bridge that experienced frequent flooding, preventing residents from using it to cross between Sharp and Fulton Counties. The project was awarded to West Plains Bridge and Grading, LLC for \$3.5 million. Funding for the work, which began in March 2021, came from Federal, State and County sources. “The new bridge provides a safer and more dependable way to cross the scenic Spring River,” said ARDOT Director Lorie Tudor. “This project was made possible through our Federal and County partners.”

GROUNDBREAKINGS



Jonesboro Eastern Bypass | Jonesboro

Looking at the future Bypass on a map, the extension project will give motorists a new north-south roadway on the east side of Jonesboro. A majority of the project will be constructed on new location beginning at Highway 49 near Farville as a divided 4-lane roadway. The bypass will extend south for 4.5-miles to Interstate 555. The southern end of the project will widen Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive to five lanes with a continuous left turn lane. The \$61 million contract was awarded

to White River Materials, Inc. in November 2022. Completion of the project is estimated for mid-2026.



Highway 83 Spur to Highway 278 Connector | Monticello

This \$30 million project was awarded to Mobley Contractors, Inc. The City of Monticello provided \$2.5 million (\$709,000 of this was awarded by the Delta Regional Authority) and Drew County provided \$505,000 toward the cost of the project. The City and County will take ownership of portions of Highway 83 Spur and Highway 83 upon completion of this project and a resurfacing project on Highway 83 in Monticello. The project

will construct a new railroad overpass, two roundabouts, and will also provide new and direct access from Highway 83 Spur to Highway 278 in Monticello. The improvements will help ease traffic flow and increase safety for those traveling in Drew County.

RECOGNITIONS & AWARDS

ARDOT AWARDED FEDERAL RAISE GRANT

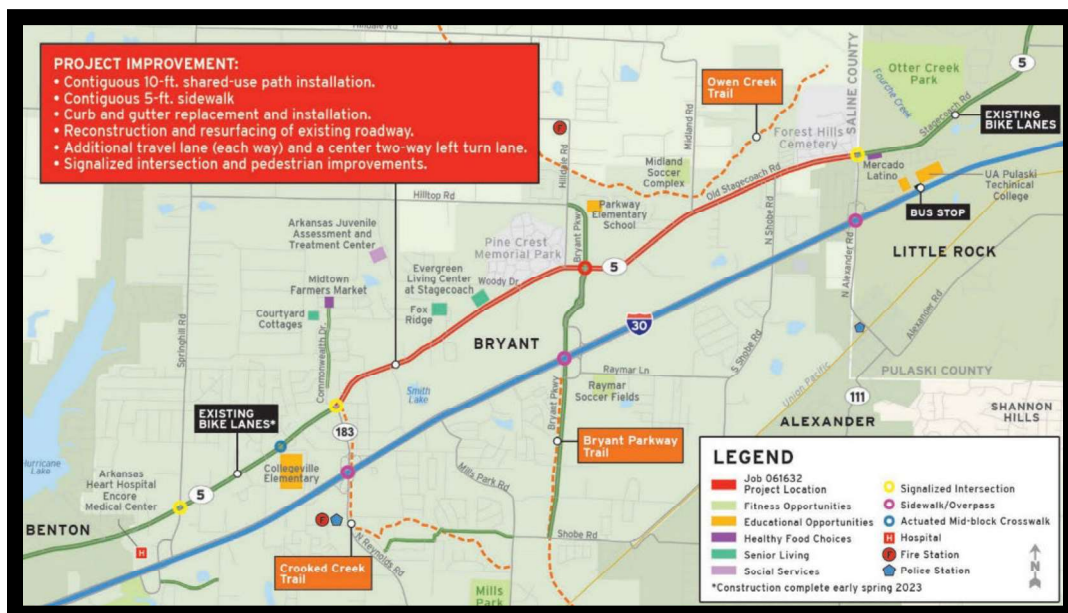
The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) has awarded a \$25 million Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) grant to ARDOT.

The RAISE grant funding will be used to reconstruct 3.5 miles of Highway 5 (Old Stagecoach Road) in Saline County between Highway 183 in Bryant and the Pulaski County Line. Plans include widening the highway to five lanes and adding a shared-use path and continuous sidewalks.

“This project will complete the widening of Highway 5 between Benton and Little Rock as well as provide improved bicycle and pedestrian access along the busy corridor,” said ARDOT Director Lorie Tudor. “We appreciate the U.S. Department of Transportation for recognizing this project as one that will improve safety and mobility for the traveling public, and we thank the Congressional Delegation for advocating for Arkansas’ infrastructure.”

The RAISE Grant program was expanded under the recently passed Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). During this funding cycle, the USDOT awarded \$2.2 billion in grant funding for 162 different infrastructure projects across the country. RAISE grant funding prioritizes projects that improve safety, quality of life, mobility, community connectivity, and economic opportunity.

The City of Russellville also received a \$23.7 million RAISE Grant this funding cycle for 13 miles of new multi-use trails and side paths. “Improvements to our transportation infrastructure such as this are crucial to Arkansas’ economic development and enhancing our standard of living,” said U.S. Senator John Boozman. “I’m pleased the U.S. Department of Transportation awarded this funding for projects important to Natural State communities.”



A STORY OF SEARCH AND RESCUE: A HERO AMONG US

District 1's Kevin Caffey, Maintenance Aide II with Lee County Area Maintenance, received two prestigious commendation awards presented to him by Arkansas Attorney General Leslie Rutledge.

"One mid-day in July of last year, a 911 call came in about a young man missing from the local assisted living facility in the community of Haynes," Caffey shared. "The missing man happened to be deaf and mute, which made this call even more urgent. Evidently, he had wandered off into a vast wooded area in Haynes."

Caffey, who is a Marianna volunteer firefighter, received the page. He and several others from other agencies, including the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, set up a search-and-rescue effort.

"During the immense search, the young man's shoe was found on a secluded gravel

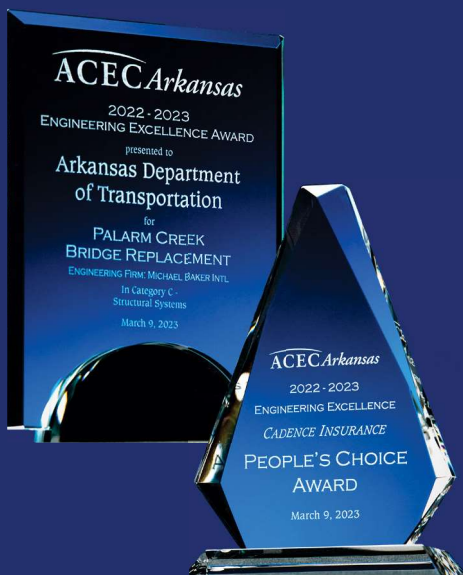


road near a hunting camp," Caffey said. The search went on well into the night and eventually had to be called off until dawn the next day. The young man was found alive submerged neck-deep in a pond with no shirt or shoes. He most likely entered the pond to escape the mosquitos but endured several snake bites."

Emergency Medical Service was contacted and quickly arrived on the scene. The missing person was transported to the

local hospital where he spent several days in recovery. Caffey kept in close contact with the young man's close friend and kept him informed of his condition. Today, the man is fully recovered and is alive and well thanks to the swift and professional actions of Caffey and the entire search team.

For their actions, the search team received the Morgan's Choice Award presented by the Morgan Nick Foundation and also an Arkansas State Capitol Citation Award.



ARDOT RECEIVES ENGINEERING IN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

ARDOT was recognized by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Arkansas Chapter with two 2023 Engineering Excellence awards. The awards recognize engineering projects in Arkansas that demonstrate a high degree of achievement, value and ingenuity. Judged by a panel of industry professionals from around the state, projects were evaluated based on uniqueness, future value to the engineering profession, sustainable considerations, and successful fulfillment of the client's needs. ARDOT received awards in two categories. In the Structural Systems category, ARDOT was recognized for the Palarm Creek Bridge Replacement on Highway 365. In the Studies, Research and Consulting Engineering Services category, ARDOT received an Honor Award for its Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment (EVID) Plan.



ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

Since 1987, more than 2,500 organizations have adopted stretches of Arkansas highways across the State. The Adopt-A-Highway program has increased public awareness of what it takes to maintain the highway right-of-way while providing an opportunity for volunteers to become personally involved in keeping Arkansas beautiful. Volunteers help maintain more than 100,000 acres of right-of-way across nearly 16,500 miles of highways. December, May and April were the months that saw the most trash cleaned up: 1,354, 862 and 851 bags respectively.

TOP 3 DISTRICTS:

VOLUNTEERS

District 4: 872
 District 2: 775
 District 3: 707

BAGS COLLECTED

District 4: 1,922
 District 9: 923
 District 3: 784

CLEANUP HOURS

District 8: 1,011
 District 4: 923
 District 3: 374

GROUPS BY DISTRICT:

District 1: 18
 District 2: 32
 District 3: 59
 District 4: 69
 District 5: 48
 District 6: 66
 District 7: 40
 District 8: 138
 District 9: 132
 District 10: 61
663 TOTAL GROUPS

PROGRAM TOTALS:

VOLUNTEERS

3,907

CLEANUP HOURS

3,327

BAGS

REMOVED

6,595

BAGS OF ALUMINIUM

103

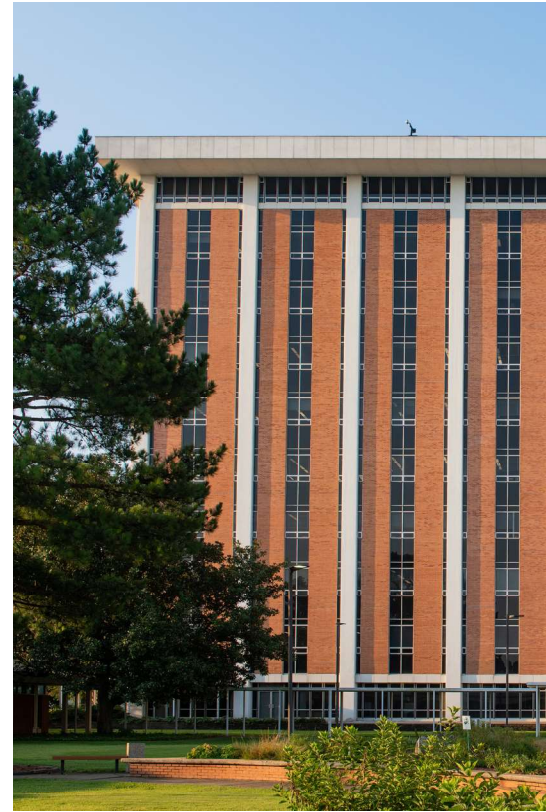
BAGS OF PLASTIC

175

ORGANIZATION & WORKFORCE

Beginning with the Mack-Blackwell Amendment of 1953, the goal of the Arkansas State Highway Commission and the ARDOT has been to provide Arkansans with the best transportation system possible.

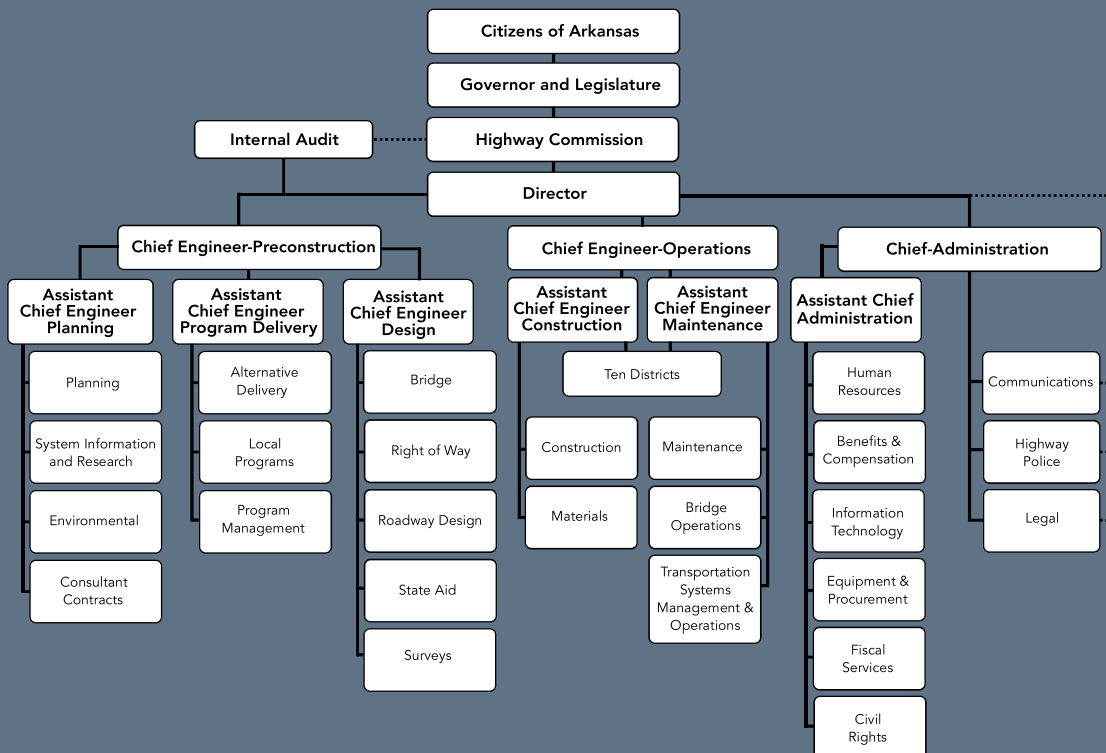
Under that amendment, each of the five Arkansas Highway Commissioners serves a 10-year, staggered term with a new commissioner appointed by the Governor every two years. The Commission holds all powers necessary to administer Arkansas laws and regulations related to ARDOT operations. The Commission also appoints the Director to develop a professional staff and to manage the day-to-day operations needed to oversee maintenance on Arkansas' Highway Network.



2023 WORKFORCE

3,730

Full-time regular employees



DIGITAL MEDIA



IDriveArkansas



2,572,224
Audience



27%
Percentage of first time visits



14,956,105
Number of pages viewed



12,227,762
Number of sessions



14.8
Average session length in minutes

Facebook



37,000
Followers



167,700
Post Clicks



5,100,000
Reach



279
Number of Posts



10,000
Number of Page Likes

Instagram



600
Followers



5,300
Reach



97
Number of Posts



2,261
Number of Likes

Twitter

@myARDOT



56,935
Followers



194
New followers



1,845,664
Impressions



432
Number of Tweets



9,020
Number of Tweets and Retweets

@IDriveArkansas



6,890
Followers



931
New followers



12,389,121
Impressions



24,463
Number of Tweets



8,637
Number of Tweets and Retweets

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Public Involvement (PI) Section of the Environmental Division facilitates intradepartmental and interdepartmental meetings, public involvement meetings and hearings, and virtual public involvement meetings and hearings as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Section also addresses and documents the impacts of highway projects as they relate to the social environment, Environmental Justice, and Title VI concerns.

PI staff addresses citizens' inquiries and ensures ArDOT's compliance with all federal and state regulations and guidelines. News releases, local newspapers, changeable message signs, television or radio public service announcements, website postings, social media platforms and flyers distributed in the project area inform the public about the meeting's time, location and nature of the proposed project. All meeting facilities comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Number of on-location public meetings

34

Attendees of in-person meetings

2,312

Number of Virtual Public Involvement Meetings

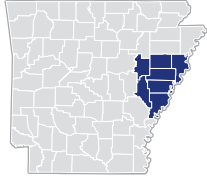
34

Website Visits

23,539



DISTRICT INFORMATION



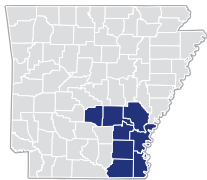
DISTRICT ONE

Counties: *Crittenden, Cross, Lee, Monroe, Phillips, St. Francis and Woodruff*

Engineer: Cannon Callicott • Email: stephen.callicott@ardot.gov

2701 Highway 64 • P.O. Box 278, Wynne, AR 72396-0278

Telephone: (870) 238-8144



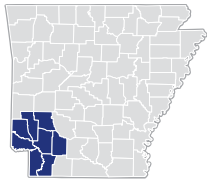
DISTRICT TWO

Counties: *Arkansas, Ashley, Chicot, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson and Lincoln*

Engineer: Drew Hoggard • Email: andrew.hoggard@ardot.gov

4900 Highway 65 South • P.O. Box 6836, Pine Bluff, AR 71611-6836

Telephone: (870) 534-1612



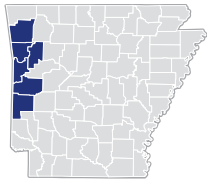
DISTRICT THREE

Counties: *Hempstead, Howard, Lafayette, Little River, Miller, Nevada, Pike and Sevier*

Engineer: William Cheatham • Email: william.cheatham@ardot.gov

2911 Highway 29 North • P.O. Box 490, Hope, AR 71802-0490

Telephone: (870) 777-3457



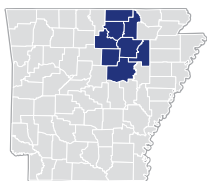
DISTRICT FOUR

Counties: *Crawford, Franklin, Polk, Scott, Sebastian and Washington*

Engineer: Jason Hughey • Email: jason.hughey@ardot.gov

808 Frontier Road, Barling • P.O. Box 11170, Fort Smith, AR 72917-1170

Telephone: (479) 484-5306



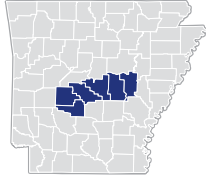
DISTRICT FIVE

Counties: *Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Jackson, Sharp, Stone and White*

Engineer: Bruce Street • Email: bruce.street@ardot.gov

1673 Batesville Boulevard • P.O. Box 2376, Batesville, AR 72503-2376

Telephone: (870) 251-2374



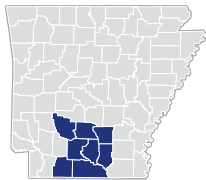
DISTRICT SIX

Counties: *Garland, Hot Spring, Lonoke, Prairie, Pulaski and Saline*

Engineer: Tony Evans • Email: tony.evans@ardot.gov

8900 Mabelvale Pike • P.O. Box 190296, Little Rock, AR 72219-0296

Telephone: (501) 569-2266



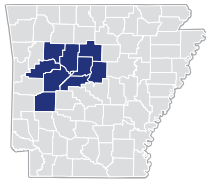
DISTRICT SEVEN

Counties: *Bradley, Calhoun, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Ouachita and Union*

Engineer: David Archer • Email: david.archer@ardot.gov

2245 California Avenue • P.O. Box 897, Camden, AR 71711-0897

Telephone: (870) 836-6401



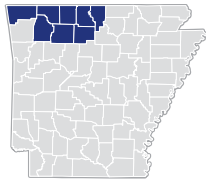
DISTRICT EIGHT

Counties: *Conway, Faulkner, Johnson, Montgomery, Perry, Pope, Van Buren, Logan and Yell*

Engineer: David Ross • Email: david.ross@ardot.gov

372 Aspen Lane • P.O. Box 70, Russellville, AR 72811-0070

Telephone: (479) 968-2286



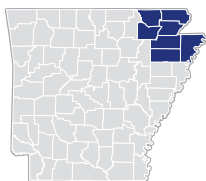
DISTRICT NINE

Counties: *Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Madison, Marion, Newton and Searcy*

Engineer: Steve Lawrence • Email: steve.lawrence@ardot.gov

4590 Highway 65 • P.O. Box 610, Harrison, AR 72602-0610

Telephone: (870) 743-2100



DISTRICT TEN

Counties: *Clay, Craighead, Greene, Lawrence, Mississippi, Poinsett and Randolph*

Engineer: Brad Smithee • Email: mark.smithee@ardot.gov

2510 Highway 412 West • P.O. Box 98, Paragould, AR 72451-0098

Telephone: (870) 239-9511

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

10324 Interstate 30, Little Rock, AR 72209

P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

501-569-2000

www.ardot.gov