

Arkadelphia Bypass Hwy. 67 – Hwy. 51 Connection Improvement Project

Job 070442



What is the Arkadelphia Bypass Project?

Several planning studies have identified the Central Business District and the east side of the Interstate 30 (I-30) and Highway 51 (Hwy. 51) interchange as areas in Arkadelphia where safety and mobility are inadequate. The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) is proposing to construct a bypass south of Arkadelphia and modify the I-30 and Hwy. 51 interchange in the City of Arkadelphia to improve safety, mobility, and connectivity.

What are the alternatives being considered?

Bypass Alignments

Six alignments provide a proposed bypass south of Arkadelphia.

- West Bypass: Alignments A, B, and H connect Hwy. 51 to Hwy. 67 south of Arkadelphia.
- East Bypass: Alignments D, F, and G connect Hwy. 67 to Hwy. 51 near the Ouachita River.

Interchange Alternatives

Four interchange alternatives connect the western bypass to Hwy. 51.

Why are we meeting?

The format for the meeting is a Virtual Location Public Hearing, which means there is no in person presentation due to COVID-19 restrictions. You are encouraged to join our virtual live event on Thursday, November 19, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to learn more about the proposed Arkadelphia Bypass Project. Visit the Virtual Location Public Hearing website to view the project presentation, preliminary alternatives, Environmental Assessment, study information, a public hearing packet, exhibits, an interactive map, and provide comments via an interactive comment form to our staff. The project team is conducting this meeting to encourage the public to indicate their alternative preferences for the Arkadelphia Bypass project. Your comments, and identification of a preferred alternative, are very important and could help shape the location and nature of future improvements. Comments may be submitted through Friday, December 4, 2020.

What has happened since we last met on February 5, 2019?

Additional studies have been completed resulting in some revisions to previously presented alternatives, removal of some alternatives, and the addition of a new western bypass alternative that connects directly to I-30. Please see the Virtual Location Public Hearing Packet for a closer look at these proposed alternatives.

What happens after the hearing?

ARDOT will review the comments received from citizens, public officials, and public agencies. The ARDOT will identify a preferred alternative and begin more detailed design and environmental studies for that preferred alternative. Once those studies have been completed and the design is at 60% the ARDOT will hold a Design Public Hearing to allow additional comments to be provided by citizens, public officials, and public agencies. Following the Design Public Hearing the ARDOT will prepare a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) document for review by the Federal Highway Administration. If approved, the FONSI will identify the Selected Alternative and concludes the National Environmental Policy Act process. Right of way acquisition can then begin. For additional information, please visit our website at <http://arkadelphiabypass.transportationplanroom.com>, call us 501- 823-0758, or email us at PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

Meeting information in English & Spanish is available at: <http://arkadelphiabypass.transportationplanroom.com>