Agenda B
Progress of Highway Construction Projects $10 Million or Greater
Agenda C
Update on I-40
Hernando de Soto Bridge
Mississippi River
May 11, 2021

I-40 Mississippi River Bridge is closed after a fracture was discovered in the tie girder (beam).
State Highway Bridges
7,383

Total Bridges
12,776
“I congratulate you on your proactive efforts to maintain your bridge inventory at the highest level.”
– FHWA Review 2011

“AHTD continues to strive to improve its bridge inspection program.”
– FHWA Review 2015

“…appreciate the significant bridge safety inspection program improvements made by your NBIS Program Manager, Mr. Mike Hill, and by your Load Rating Engineer, Mr. David Ball, as well as their respective staffs.”
– FHWA Review 2015

“The Arkansas Department of Transportation (ARDOT) has a functioning and effective Bridge Inspection Program.”
– FHWA Review 2018-19
Inspecting the I-40 MS River Bridge
Inspecting Above
I-40 MS River Bridge

Inspecting Below
I-55 MS River Bridge
Press Conference

We spoke to media about the closure, inspections, and repair plans.

Safety First

We immediately started another inspection of the I-55 MS River Bridge.

Gather Information

We, TDOT, the FHWA, and contractors HNTB and Michael Baker assessed the damage.
Earlier Evidence

Drone footage from a routine inspection of the cables in 2019.
Investigation and Review

- Requested US DOT Inspector General assign a special agent to investigate.
- FHWA reviewing our Bridge Inspection Process and Compliance.
- Asked TDOT to re-inspect and review our previous inspection of the I-55 MS River Bridge.
- Solicited consultants to review our Bridge Inspection Program.
Kiewit Infrastructure Group installed the temporary platform for Phase 1 Repairs.

Kiewit worked in shifts 24 hours a day on Phase 1 Repairs.

Kiewit completed Phase 1 Repairs.
Phase 2 Repairs

Design Finalized
“It’s amazing what can be accomplished when you don’t care who gets the credit.”

- Harry S. Trumann
Bridge Inspection Program

• Increase to Heavy Bridge Maintenance Budget
  • 2021 - $3.5 Million
  • 2022 - $6.4 Million
State Highway Bridges

$152M FOR REHABILITATION

$502M for Replacements
State Highway Bridges

RENEW ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS PROGRAM

Est. $1.1 Billion – 10 Year
I-40/I-55 Western Interchange to I-55/Crump Blvd. Interchange
West Memphis
Interstate 40 and
Interstate 55
Traffic Pattern
Changes
Facing Northbound

Originally there was only a single lane for traffic traveling I-55 Southbound.

Facing Southbound

TDOT added a lane to the ramp at the Crump Interchange.

Improved Section

Their crews paved and restriped this section of the interchange over a weekend.
Traffic Delay Data

**MONDAYS**
35 Min. Faster

**TUESDAYS**
55 Min. Faster
“Never let a good crisis go to waste”.

~Winston Churchill