



2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program FACT SHEET

1. The 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program will be subject to approval by Arkansas voters at a special election to be called by the Governor. The special election will be held Tuesday, November 8, 2011.
2. No new or increased taxes are required for the 2011 program. Only future federal revenue and an existing 4¢ state diesel tax passed in 1999 will be used to help retire the bonds.
3. The program will continue and help finish the job of the 1999 Interstate Rehabilitation Program passed 4-to-1 by Arkansas voters, which reconstructed over 350 miles of Arkansas Interstates. Arkansas now has over 650 miles of Interstate highways. Reconstruction of nearly 300 miles of Interstate highways will be addressed by the new program.
4. With voter approval, the Arkansas Highway Commission will be authorized to issue up to \$575 million in GARVEE bonds to help finance continued modernization of our Interstate highway system. The bonds will support a nearly \$1 billion rehabilitation program.
5. GARVEE bonds (Grant Anticipation Revenue Vehicles) provide revenue from bonds that can be retired with future federal funds, combined with state revenue from the existing 4¢ diesel tax passed in 1999. No new taxes are required.
6. The existing diesel tax provides the state approximately \$13.5 million annually, with cities and counties each receiving about \$6 million a year.
7. New bonds totaling up to \$575 million will be issued in series, and must be issued by December 31, 2015.
8. The program will help meet Interstate needs of \$1 billion, with construction work supporting nearly 28,000 jobs, and freeing other revenue for local highway maintenance.
9. The 2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program will further modernize Arkansas Interstates, thus increasing the opportunity for economic development from business, manufacturing and tourism – without raising taxes.