



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

Office of the Administrator

1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

March 28, 2014

In Reply Refer To:
HEPH-20

Scott E. Bennett, P.E.
Director of Highways and Transportation
Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
State Highway Department Building
10324 Interstate 30
Little Rock, AR 72209

Through: Sandra L. Otto
Division Administrator
Little Rock, AR

Dear Mr. Bennett:

Thank you for your letter requesting the re-designation of I-540 from I-40 to U.S. 62 as I-49, and the designation of U.S. 71 from U.S. 62 to U.S. 71 Business as I-49. The designation of these segments as I-49 is consistent with the numbering set by Congress in Section 1105(c)(72) of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, as amended.

The Federal Highway Administration has confirmed that U.S. 71 from U.S. 62 to U.S. 71 as described in your request meets American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Interstate Design Standards and the criteria for logical addition or connection to the Interstate System. In addition the numbering requests to remove the I-540 co-designation from I-40 between Van Buren and Alma and designate the Bella Vista Bypass as future Interstate 49 are logical.

Based on our review and AASHTO's conditional approval of the numbering, the addition of these segments and changes to the Interstate System are approved as requested.

Sincerely,

Gregory G. Nadeau
Deputy Administrator

cc: Marty Vitale (AASHTO)