Consolidated and further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2012 signed by President on November 18, 2011

- Appropriates funding through September 30, 2012 (remainder of Fiscal Year 2012)
- 4.6% reduction in funding ($25 million reduction for Arkansas)
- $500 million for TIGER Grants
Reauthorization

- 848 days since SAFETEA-LU expired
- 8 extensions since September 30, 2009
- Current extension expires March 31, 2012
- Funds appropriated through September 30, 2012, but may not have spending authorization
Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) approved by Senate EPW Committee

- 2-year bill
- Senate Finance Committee must “find” $12 billion to fully fund MAP-21 – reported to reveal plan on Feb. 2
- Slightly below FY2011 funding levels
- Consolidating programs
- Performance measures
- Competitive grants and set-asides for “loans”
Reauthorization

- House T&I Committee should soon release The American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act
  - 5-year bill
  - At or near FY2012 funding levels ($2 billion less than FY2011)
  - No specifics available, but much talk about consolidating programs and performance measures
Reauthorization

Steps needed to enact a bill

✓ Committees must finalize legislation
✓ House and Senate must debate and pass their bills
✓ House and Senate must agree on and pass a final bill

Can this happen by March 31, 2012???
2011 Interstate Rehabilitation Program
April 2011  RFPs for design consultants
November 2011  Contract signed with Financial Advisor
December 2011  Agreements signed with 10 design firms
Currently  Assigning projects to design firms
Late 2012 (tentative)  Issue bonds and let first contracts
Types of Work

- Mill and Inlay
- Mill and Overlay
- Rubblize and Overlay
- Mill, Rubblize and Overlay
- Concrete Pavement Rehabilitation
- Concrete Reconstruction
- Interchanges Modifications
INTERSTATE CONDITION

1999 PRE-IRP: 21% GOOD, 16% FAIR, 63% POOR
2006 POST-IRP: 72% GOOD, 14% FAIR, 14% POOR
2014: 67% GOOD, 23% FAIR, 10% POOR
2020 WITH BONDS: 76% GOOD, 24% POOR
Temporary 0.5% Sales Tax (Issue #1)

- November 6, 2012 election ballot
- Temporary Increase
- $230m annually ($160m/$35m/$35m)
- State Aid Street Fund for City Streets
Temporary 0.5% Sales Tax (Issue #1)

- Bond debt retired over 10 years
- $1.3 Billion in general obligation bonds
- Tax expires when the bonds are retired
- Four-lane highways
- $1.8 Billion total program
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening I-540 to six lanes between Fayetteville and Bentonville;
- Completion of the initial two lanes of the ultimate four lanes of the Bella Vista Bypass (Future I-49);
- Beginning the four-lane construction of the U.S. Highway 412 Bypass (Springdale) from I-540 westward to XNA Connector;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening I-40 to six lanes between Conway and North Little Rock;
- Completion of widening U.S. Highway 67 to six lanes from Jacksonville to Cabot;
- Improvements to I-30 connecting Little Rock and North Little Rock, including widening Arkansas River bridge;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 64 to four lanes between Conway and Beebe;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 70 to four lanes between I-30 and Hot Springs;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 167 to four lanes between I-530 and El Dorado;
- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 412 to four lanes between Paragould and Walnut Ridge;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Completion of widening U. S. Highway 425 to four lanes from Hamburg to the Louisiana state line;
- Completion of widening Highway 18 to four lanes between Jonesboro and Blytheville;
- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 65 to four lanes from Clinton northward;
- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 65 to four lanes from Bellefonte southward;
Benefits of Temporary 0.5% Tax

- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 49 to four lanes from Brinkley southward toward Helena-West Helena;

- Continuation of widening U. S. Highway 270 to four lanes from Hot Springs westward;

- Beginning the widening of U. S. Highway 82 to four lanes between Magnolia and El Dorado.
“Things do not happen. Things are made to happen.”
- John F. Kennedy

“Difficulties mastered are opportunities won.”
- Winston Churchill