

Misinformation #3: County "would no longer have access to the old bridge" according to newspaper report that County Judge said "county agreed to trade the approaches... for approaches to the new bridge" (Question: How can county trade something it doesn't own?) (see attached pages C-1, C-2, C-3 of November 20, 2019 letter from the legal division of ARDOT stating plainly that "no such agreements exist" and that no such decisions "will be made until the new bridge is complete".)



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ARDOT.gov | IDriveArkansas.com | Scott E. Bennett, P.E., Director

LEGAL DIVISION | M. Todd Elder, Staff Attorney | Todd.Elder@ardot.gov

10324 Interstate 30 | P.O. Box 2261 | Little Rock, AR 72203-2261 | Phone: 501.569.2166 | Fax: 501.569.2164

November 21, 2019

Connie Burks
2184 Madison 1745
Huntsville, AR 72740

Re: FOIA Request

Dear Ms. Burks:

The Legal Division of the Arkansas Department of Transportation (“ARDOT”) is in receipt of your public records request dated November 18, 2019 under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act. Therein, you request copies of certain documents pertaining to ARDOT Job No. 009784 based upon a local newspaper article which you had attached to your request.

No agreements for that particular construction project exist at this time. Any agreement related to transfer of the access to the current Pruitt Bridge will not occur until the project is complete, if at all.

Sincerely,

M. Todd Elder
Staff Attorney

MTE/ea

DATE: November 18, 2019

RE: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST ^{faxed on} with attachment

Dear Agency FOIA Coordinator/Officer:

By this letter, I hereby request access under the Arkansas Freedom of Information Act, Ark. Code Ann. 25-19-101, *et seq.*, to the public records described below. Please provide copies of the following records:

1. All agreements, communications, moa's, mov's, contracts, etc., written, electronic or otherwise between Newton County officials or citizens and AHTD (ARDOT) and or BMR/NPS and or Federal Highway Administration and/or any other agent or agency or between agencies or any other entity pertaining to the "trade agreement" referenced in the Newton County Times staff report attached and dated November 13, 2019.
2. attachment news report article:
3. * "the county agreed to trade the approaches to the old bridge for land needed for approaches to the new bridge" said County Judge Warren Campbell

If you are not the custodian of these records, please provide me with the contact information of the one(s) who is/are. I ask that you make these records available within three working days or notify me of a reasonable timeframe in which you anticipate production of the requested records. I ask that you waive your customary copying fees as this request is made for noncommercial purposes. If the agency does require a fee for production and that fee exceeds \$ 50.00, I ask that you contact me before producing the request.

In the event that any of the requested records contain information exempt from disclosure, I ask that the record be produced with the exempt portions deleted. If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you provide written explanation of the basis for the denial and specify the statutory exemption that you assert provides for the nondisclosure of the record.

If you have questions, please contact me at 479-325-9626. Thank you for your timely compliance with Arkansas law. You may deliver requested items via U.S. Mail to me at: 2184 Madison 1745 Huntsville, Ark 72740 or notify me at same of when and where to accept personal delivery. I reserve the right to come and personally inspect your files if I am not satisfied with your response to this request.

Respectfully,

Connie Burks

Copies to: Prosecuting Attorney, Governor, Attorney General, State Senators and State Legislators, etc.

C-2