



INFORMATION RELEASE

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Improvements Require Lane Shift at U.S. Highway 71B Exit in Bentonville

BENTON COUNTY (03-17) – Construction on the Bella Vista Bypass (Highway 549/Future Interstate 49) requires a lane shift to a new I-49 southbound exit ramp to access U.S. 71B (North Walton Boulevard) in Bentonville, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

Beginning **Monday morning, March 20**, southbound traffic using the I-49 exit ramp (Exit 93) to U.S. 71B will shift lanes to a newly constructed ramp west of the existing alignment. This work is associated with the roundabout construction at I-49. This lane shift will remain in effect through the remainder of the roundabout's construction. Mainline I-49 and U.S. Highway 71 will not be affected.

The lane shift will begin **Monday, March 20 at 9:00 a.m.**, weather permitting. Traffic will be controlled using signage, pavement markings, and traffic barrels. Motorists should reduce exit speeds to safely negotiate the new alignment.

This project is constructing approximately 6 miles of the bypass, extending from Highway 71B to Highway 72 South. The project involves the initial two lanes of a four-lane facility. The project is part of the Connecting Arkansas Program (CAP), which is funded through a 10-year, half-cent sales tax. More information is available at ConnectingArkansasProgram.com.

Drivers should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ArkansasHighways.com. You can also follow us on [Twitter @AHTD](https://twitter.com/AHTD).

-30-

