

Southwest Trail System

ARDOT Job 061562



What is the Southwest Trail System Project?

Pulaski, Saline, and Garland Counties are working to develop a trail to connect to Hot Springs National Park, the Old River Bridge on the Saline River, the Little Rock Central High School Historic Site, and the Arkansas River Trail System that allows for pedestrians and bicyclists to safely enjoy outdoor recreation while providing an economic stimulus to the local and regional economies.

What has happened since the Design Public Hearing in 2020?

ARDOT reviewed the comments received from citizens, public officials, and public agencies after the Virtual Design Public Hearing. Upon compilation of and response to public comments, a final Environmental Assessment (EA) was submitted to ARDOT and FHWA for review, comment, and approval. In October 2020, FHWA approved the EA and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), which cleared the full 60-mile trail project for engineering design. Adjustments have been made to the Selected Alternative which is the reason for this re-evaluation and public meeting.

Why was the trail alignment adjusted?

As detailed design has advanced, the designers have been working closely with community leaders to address possible improvements. Coming from this collaborative process are several locations of the Selected Alternative that have been revised to better address current social, environmental, and public concerns regarding the location and implementation of the trail. The proposed modifications to the Selected Alternative are located at nine separate locations along the alignment. The revised project alignment is referred to as the Revised Selected Alternative, an approximately 50-foot-wide study area centered on the proposed trail location.

Why are we meeting?

This Virtual Public Meeting is being held to discuss alignment adjustments to the Selected Alternative for the Southwest Trail System project and allow opportunity for public comment. Preliminary design has been completed for some sections of the Revised Selected Alternative and the proposed right-of-way limits have been estimated. You are encouraged to join our virtual live event on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to learn more about the proposed Southwest Trail System Project and the Revised Selected Alternative.

Visit the Virtual Public Meeting website SWTrail.TransportationPlanroom.com to view the project presentation, alignment adjustments, study information, exhibits, an interactive map, and provide comments via an interactive comment form to our staff. The project team is conducting this meeting to encourage the public to review the alignment adjustments for the Southwest Trail. Comments may be submitted through Wednesday, May 18, 2022.

What happens after the meeting?

Following the Virtual Public Meeting, ARDOT will conclude the National Environmental Policy Act process. Right-of-way acquisition can then begin. For additional information, please visit our website at SWTrail.TransportationPlanroom.com, call us at 501-823-0730, or email us at PublicInvolvement@GarverUSA.com.

Meeting information is available at: SWTrail.TransportationPlanroom.com