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March 5, 2010

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## **34 Highway Improvement Projects Underway or Completed in Louisiana Thanks to Stimulus Law**

**(WASHINGTON, D.C.)**—There are currently 34 American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)-financed highway construction projects underway or completed in Louisiana involving \$298.4 million in funds, according to data released today by the Washington, D.C.-based American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA). The projects underway or completed have supported or are supporting 8,303 jobs in Louisiana that would otherwise not exist, say ARTBA Vice President of Economics & Research Dr. Bill Buechner.

ARRA, signed into law on February 17, 2009, provided \$48 billion for transportation improvements over two years, including \$27.5 billion for highway, bridge and related construction projects nationwide. The law is having significant impacts on the transportation construction industry in all 50 states.

ARRA provided \$433.0 million to Louisiana for highway, bridge and related improvements. This one-time bonus added more than 78 percent to Louisiana's regular federal highway funds under the current federal surface transportation law—Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)—bringing the state's total federal highway funding in 2009 to a record \$988.6 million.

According to Buechner, a Harvard-trained economist, another 66 projects have been identified and are slated to be under construction shortly.

The following shows the number of ARRA-financed highway projects and amount obligated in each Louisiana congressional district.

Congressional District	Number of projects	Amount Obligated
1	17	\$35,758,713
2	18	\$33,785,342
3	25	\$144,275,887
4	6	\$45,663,147
5	17	\$23,857,772
6	6	\$97,699,391
7	8	\$27,340,764
Multidistrict/Statewide	3	\$820,133

A full report can be obtained by contacting ARTBA's Jeff Solsby at [jsolsby@artba.org](mailto:jsolsby@artba.org) or 202-289-4434.

For 108 years, ARTBA has represented the U.S. transportation design and construction industry before Congress, the White House, federal agencies, news media and general public.

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