



"Ruth Hartje"
<hartjeweb@live.com>
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To <STIP@odot.org>
cc
bcc
Subject Widening of Highway 64 and 2nd Bridge over Arkansas River
near Bixby

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been made aware that ODOT is currently developing its future transportation planning policies and projects for the next four years as parts of its Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and an Intermodal Plan involving alternative transportation modes for the next 25 years.

Bixby is one of the fastest growing communities in the state, but we have a major problem hindering our continued growth and the sustainability of our current growth: Highway 64 is too narrow!

Highway 64 is in desperate need of widening and we are in even more of a desperate need for another bridge over the Arkansas River. H. 64 needs to be 6 lanes from 111th at least until 161st and then it would also be helpful to widen it to 4 lanes from 161st to 171st.

But again, the second bridge needs to be planned. I can't tell you how many times my commute home from Tulsa was completely at a standstill because of an accident on the bridge. It is not in the best interests of Bixby residents (also taxpayers) to have only one entrance into their city and since we have to cross a river, only one bridge to go over the river. This should be viewed as a public safety concern more than anything.

Please include these items in your upcoming transportation planning.

Yours truly,

Mark and Ruth Hartje