

Traffic Advisory

Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Media & Public Relations Division
200 N.E. 21st Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73105
Phone:405-521-6000, Fax:405-521-2524

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<http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/newsmedia/traffic-advisory.htm>

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WEEKLY UPDATE – Progress continues, public’s suggestions addressed

Work on the US-77/SH-39 bridge between Purcell and Lexington is continuing to progress at a good pace thanks to the cooperation of the weather and the consistent delivery of repair brackets. The department continues to remain confident that the bridge will be opened on or before the 120-day deadline of June 14.

Since the closure of the bridge, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation has received a lot of suggestions from helpful Oklahomans for solutions on how to get from one town to the other. One idea that is resurfacing is to have the military build a temporary or pontoon bridge for drivers to get across the river.

When the bridge closed, Gov. Fallin consulted with many agencies and the National Guard on what steps could be taken to help get the people of Purcell and Lexington across the river more expeditiously.

The idea to build a temporary military-style bridge came up, but it was decided that it could not work due to many factors. Not only does the bridge cross a river, but also a railroad yard and the elevation change from the roadway surface down to the river is quite steep. Major General Deering advised that in the time it would take to overcome those obstacles, the bridge would either be repaired or very near completion.

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