

Media Advisory

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The Heart of Oklahoma Chamber hosts Purcell/Lexington bridge opening ceremony Friday, June 13

The much anticipated opening of the US-77/SH-39 James C. Nance bridge between Purcell and Lexington is finally coming to fruition at a ceremony planned for Friday, June 13. This event is open to the public.

Hosted by The Heart of Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce, the ceremony will include comments from Gov. Mary Fallin, Purcell Mayor David Lee, Lexington City Manager Charlie McCown, State Rep. Lisa Billy, State Rep. Bobby Cleveland and Oklahoma Department of Transportation Executive Director Mike Patterson. Also expected to attend are state and local leaders.

The event will kick off with a prayer offering by local churches and a ribbon-cutting ceremony on the Lexington side of the bridge, followed by a parade over the bridge that will conclude at Veterans Memorial Park at the corner of Main St. and 3rd St. in Purcell where the dignitaries will make comments.

Contractors are currently working to finish installing the final repair plates. When the bridge is opened there will be a 15 ton load limit for a few months while ODOT observes and evaluates the bridge. The public is invited to this event, however they must arrive at the Lexington side of the bridge to be involved in the convoy to the press event location.

Press Conference Location:

- **Friday, June 13, 3 p.m.**
- **Ribbon-cutting at Lexington end of bridge**
- **Press conference at Veterans Memorial Park in Purcell, Main St. and 3rd St.**
- **Remember the bridge will be closed until after the ribbon cutting. You must arrive on the Lexington side to participate in the ribbon cutting, prayer offering and parade.**

(Editors Note – Due to logistical concerns, the ribbon cutting and prayer offering will only be viewable from the Lexington side, but the photo op of the first traffic crossing the bridge and the press event will only be viewable from the Purcell side. Consider this when coordinating your coverage by ground or air.)**