

Oklahoma Department of Transportation
Traffic Advisory
Hereford Lane over US-69, Pittsburg Co
Thursday, Aug. 4, 2011

Hereford Lane closed over US-69 in McAlester through mid-October

East and westbound Hereford Lane over US-69 is closed through mid-October for bridge repairs. The US-69 service roads at Hereford are open and can carry traffic south and onto US-69 north or southbound. The \$787,000 contract was awarded in May to Earth Builders, L.P. of Decatur, TX.

Project background and determination:

In 2009, crews and residents, discovered concrete settling at the recently finished \$7.2 million US-69 / Hereford Lane interchange. Concrete slabs approaching the bridge were gradually shifting down. Crews began investigating immediately to determine a plan for permanent repairs.

After extensive review, ODOT engineers and consultants determined an unanticipated and rare occurrence took place in the soil following construction. The soil at the bridge was found to be uniquely susceptible to moisture, and when coupled with drought conditions in the area at the time of construction, it reacted differently than expected when it became saturated during routine construction procedures, which caused the settling.

The current repairs to the bridge approaches include removing the concrete approach pavement and constructing compacted stone piers to stabilize the embankments. This project is considered an innovative and expedited repair procedure.

--www.okladot.state.ok.us--