



INFORMATION RELEASE

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, MEDIA & PUBLIC RELATIONS DIVISION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ODOT Extends Comment Period for Oklahoma City Boulevard

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is extending the public comment period for the Oklahoma City Boulevard until June 13. The decision to continue to accept comments longer than the standard 14-day period was made after careful consideration of the public comments and questions received to date and because ODOT is working on additional information to be placed on the project website.

The refined information will be posted on ODOT's website at www.okladot.state.ok.us by May 30, in order to help address questions and eliminate confusion on the project.

All comments received to date, as well as any new comments, are important and will be considered as part of the overall environmental process.

ODOT and the City of Oklahoma City are jointly asking local citizens to take advantage of the longer comment period to voice their opinions about their priorities for the Boulevard. An outreach will be made to inform those members of the public that have previously provided comments or attended meetings that additional information is being made available. The public is encouraged to continue to check ODOT's website for additional information.

Because the Oklahoma City Boulevard is a complex issue, ODOT offers the following facts to be considered as the public provides input:

- The massive I-40 Crosstown relocation interstate project including the future Oklahoma City Boulevard has experienced some of the highest level of public involvement and participation success.
- ODOT, in conjunction with the City of Oklahoma City, has worked beyond the standard requirements for public involvement so that the Boulevard project is transparent and effective for local citizens.
- There have been several public meetings held for the Boulevard. The May 7 Open House was successful in that it produced many public comments. The next meeting to be scheduled will be the final public hearing.
- All four conceptual design alternates under public review were evaluated using the same criteria.
- As part of federal requirements, ODOT cannot begin final design efforts until an environmental process is complete.

- Advanced design features such as sidewalks, bicycle and pedestrian accommodations and other roadway features will be developed for consideration with input from Oklahoma City and the community and can be incorporated into any of the four conceptual designs being considered.
- ODOT remains committed to working hand-in-hand with the City of Oklahoma City in its efforts to expedite the design and construction of the Boulevard as the final part of the original I-40 Crosstown interstate project.

—www.okladot.state.ok.us—

(Editors and News Directors: For more information, call the ODOT Media and Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)

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