

Current and former state leaders, time capsule, generational stories featured at Oklahoma transportation special observance FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 15, 2011

PHONE 405-PUBLIC ATIC × 0 **NXO** CITY, OI OKLAHOMA ЧО ST. **21ST** Ż

73

One hundred years to the date after the founding of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, Gov. Mary Fallin and other state leaders commemorated the historic occasion and the impact transportation has had on Oklahoma's people and economy with a special tribute, a time capsule and press conference.

The event included the presentation of a plaque commemorating the department's creation and special recognition for families in which multiple generations have worked for ODOT. The event culminated with the sealing of a time capsule, donated by Pelco Products of Edmond, for future Oklahomans to open in 2061.

Items included in the time capsule are:

- List of current ODOT employees with signatures
- Copies of June 15 editions of both major state newspapers
- A June 15 postage stamp

PR# 11-036

- Cover sheets for significant projects in all areas of the state, including the I-40 Crosstown in Oklahoma City and the I-44 Riverside to Yale project in Tulsa
- A sample of paving materials currently in use •
- Photographs from the 2002 reconstruction of the I-40 bridge at Webbers Falls after a • tragedy in which the bridge was knocked down by an errant barge, killing 14 people
- Various informational items produced for the year-long centennial observance

During the press conference, Gov. Mary Fallin noted Oklahoma has a \$40 billion investment in its state-maintained transportation infrastructure, making it the largest, most valuable state asset.

"A safe and reliable transportation system is essential to the economic wellbeing of our state and is critical to attracting more jobs and investment to Oklahoma," Fallin said. "I am delighted to be a part of today's celebration and want to congratulate the Department of Transportation on its 100th anniversary."

Transportation Secretary Gary Ridley, who began his career as an ODOT equipment operator and now oversees several transportation-related agencies, praised the thousands of ODOT employees who have worked in various ways to manage and expand the state's transportation system.

"The employees who have worked for the agency have been part a team working to build and maintain an effective transportation system for Oklahoma – from the four employees who made up the State Highway Department when it was created in 1911 to the 2,400 employees who make up ODOT today," Ridley said.

Among those invited to help celebrate the monumental milestone were several former governors and as well as former secretaries of transportation and other officials.

Expected to attend along with Fallin are former Gov. George Nigh and all former transportation secretaries: Neal McCaleb, Delmas Ford, Herschal Crow and Phil Tomlinson.

Cattle trails and rivers were the closest thing early Oklahomans had to interstates. By statehood in 1907, trains were the most dependable form of transportation, but getting to a depot could be difficult. The situation began to change on June 15, 1911, when legislation took effect creating the State Highway Department.



Today, ODOT is responsible for over 30,000 lane miles of highway - the equivalent of driving from Oklahoma City to Los Angeles and back 11 times – and also 6,800 bridges. The department also manages nearly 800 miles of freight rail along with the *Heartland Flyer's* daily passenger rail service.

"From those who built the first major highway in the United States – Route 66 – to the interstates we all travel today, all Oklahomans take great pride in improved transportation and the important role it has played in the development of the state," Ridley said. "This celebration is about state achievement and the positive gains made possible by generations of hard-working Oklahomans."

Sponsoring the observance throughout the year are: Platinum Engine level: Association of General Contractors and Oklahoma Employees Credit Union; Golden Steering level: American Concrete Pavement Association and Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma; and Silver Wheel level: Oklahoma Asphalt Pavement Association and EST Inc.

Celebrations begin at 9 a.m. June 15 and end at 9 p.m. June 15 with the documentary "ODOT 100: Celebrating 100 Years of Transportation in Oklahoma" on OETA. A coffee table book of transportation history, "ODOT100: Celebrating the First 100 Years of Transportation in Oklahoma" is available for purchase through ODOT, the Oklahoma History Center and the Oklahoma Heritage Association. For more information, call 405-521-2586.

For more information on ODOT's history and centennial celebrations visit www.okladot.state.ok.us, click on the ODOT100 icon.

-www.okladot.state.ok.us-

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

Activities commemorating ODOT's year-long centennial observance

- ODOT100 centennial website
- "Oklahoma Driven: Cars, Collectors and the Birth of the Oklahoma Highway Commission" exhibit at the Oklahoma History Center
- "Oklahoma Moments" videos produced by ODOT and the Oklahoma History center, in partnership with *Distinctly Oklahoma* magazine
- 2011-2012 State map highlighting transportation trends since ODOT's founding
- 3rd Annual Disadvantaged Business enterprise Business Development Conference featuring a centennial theme
- Brochure highlighting ODOT's centennial history
- Coffee table book recording ODOT history
- Commemorative calendar featuring ODOT historical events
- Educational programs for young students, including less plans for teachers and hand-on activities for pupils, developed by the Oklahoma Historical Society
- Employee fundraising cookbook featuring ODOT history
- Kiosk at Will Rogers World Airport showcasing ODOT history
- ODOT Day at Science Museum Oklahoma
- Open houses at division headquarters throughout the state
- Gubernatorial proclamation urging Oklahomans to celebrate ODOT's centennial
- Passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution 9 commemorating ODOT's centennial
- Postcards noting Oklahoma transportation history
- Public service announcements
- Television documentary about ODOT history on OETA



ODOT 100th Anniversary Wednesday, June 15, 2011 – 9 a.m. ODOT lobby

Press Conference Agenda

9 a.m.	Transportation Secretary Gary Ridley Welcome, recognitions Did You Knows – Anniversary	Master of Ceremonies (2 mins)
9:02 a.m.	Plaque presentation From Sec. Ridley & Governor Mary Fallin to ODOT (2 m	ins)
9:04 a.m.	Previous Governors/Secretaries of Transportation Gov. George Nigh (2 mins) Sec. Delmas Ford (2 mins) Sec. Neal McCaleb (2 mins) Sec. Herschal Crow (2 mins) Sec. Phil Tomlinson (2 mins)	Brief remarks
9:14 a.m.	Gov. Fallin	Comments (5 mins)
9:19 a.m.	Generations comment (if time)	
9:21 a.m.	Sec. Ridley & Gov. Fallin Sealing Time Capsule (5 mins) Group photo ***Note: regardless of what's going on, we will seal the time capsule at 9:20 a.m. before Gov. Fallin has to depart then continue on with Generations, other Governors/Secretaries as necessary	
9:25 a.m.	Multiple generations of ODOT service Note: if time before 9:20 a.m., Ridley will call on you Shawn Davis for the Davis family (2 mins) Teresa Kukuk for the Kukuk family (2 mins) Brandt Boley for the Lawrence "Pappy" Hunt family (2 m	Brief remarks mins)
9:31 a.m.	Sec. Ridley Announcements, cake	Closing remarks



ODOT Time Capsule Contents – June 15, 2011

On June 15, 2011, the following items were placed in a time capsule commemorating the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's 100th anniversary. The capsule is to be opened on June 15, 2061.

- A list of State and Department of Transportation executives, including the Governor, the Secretary of Transportation, Transportation Commissioners and ODOT Senior Staff members
- A signed photo of Gov. Mary Fallin at the May 2011 meeting of the Oklahoma Transportation Commission
- An ODOT organizational chart
- 8-Year Construction Work Plan maps from all divisions and urban areas
- The most recent edition of the booklet, "Update on Oklahoma Bridges and Highways"
- Plan title sheets of a top project in each division and urban area
- Signed rosters of employees and commissioners in each division and central office
- Roster of Oklahoma Employees Credit Union employees
- A timeline summary of major events taking place during the ODOT centennial year
- An ODOT 100 brochure
- An ODOT 100 2011 calendar
- A set of ODOT 100 postcards
- An Oklahoma 2011-2012 Official State Map
- A copy of a Governor's proclamation designating 2011 as "Celebrate Transportation Year" in Oklahoma
- A copy of Resolution No. 9, a Concurrent Resolution recognizing the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for 100 years of service
- Lapel pins from the ODOT 100 centennial (2011), the 50th Anniversary of the Interstate (2006) and the State of Oklahoma centennial (2007)
- Core samples
- A postmark from June 15, 2011, stamped in the ODOT Mail Room
- Newspapers (The Oklahoman & Tulsa World) from June 15, 2011
- A program from the celebration of the July 29, 2002, completion of repairs to the Webbers Falls bridge hit
- An Operation Iraqi Freedom certificate awarded to ODOT's Division 3 upon their receipt of a U.S. Flag that had been flown in the face of the enemy
- A reflective safety vest
- A current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices
- An Oklahoma (Transit) Passenger Service Map
- Items from the June 14, 1999, Amtrak *Heartland Flyer* Oklahoma Service Inaugural
- A coffee mug from the Oklahoma Employees Credit Union 2011 Annual Meeting



Enrolled House Bill 318

Creating the State Department of Highways

Effective June 15, 1911

Enrolled. House Bill no. 3 15. By Committee on Prade & Highways an act Establishing a State Department of Highways, Providing For The appointment of a State Highway Communicemen Who Shall Be a Competent Engeneer and Creceroling The Sutice and Compensating authorizing a State Luince Fee an Elutomobiles To Create a Fund For Establishing and maintaining The Department of Highways: , and Declaring an Emergency + In A Enacted By The People of The State of acluhoma : Section 1. a State High way Department is hereby created and established, and the Governor of the State shall appoint a State Highway Commissioner, to be approved by the Senate, who shall hold office for a term of four years. The Commissioner so appointed shall be a percon of recognized knowledge in the construction and maintenance of improved roade. Said State Highway & ommissioner shall receive a calary of Twenty Five Foundred \$2500,00 per annum, and chall be allowed actual Traveling expenses, not exceeding fifteen hundred dollard \$ 1500.00) per annum. Said Commissioner chall, befor entering upon his dutice, file with the Secretary of State his rath of office which chall by the same as is prescribed for other State officere, and chall furnich a Fond in the sum of five thousand dollare (\$5;000.00) for the faithful performance of his dutice, said bouck to be approved by the Governor, and he shall give his whole time and attention to the duties of his position. a vacaney in said Thee shall by filled in the same manner as de precerched for regenal appointment. Section 2. The said State Highway Commissioner chall to provided with sentable office roome at the State Espitol which shall be kept open at such times as the buciness of said department and the convenience or interests of the public chall require. Such office shall be conveniently and properly furniched, and shall be the repository for all the records of said state Highway Department.

Section 3. It shall be the duty of the said State Highway Commissioner to consider all questions relating to the general policy of the State Highway Department, and the conduct of the work in general ; to act for the State Highway Department in all matters relating to recommendation, estimates and appropriation; to prepare standard specifications for construction of roads; to employ an assistant engineer or engineers and such clinical force as may be necessary to properly conduct his department at are annual expense not to exceed five thousand dollars and to exercise authority in all matters relating to plans for the building and maintanance of improved public highways.

Section 4. The State Highway Communicationer shall keep a record of all proceedings and ordere pertaining to the busines of the office and of the department. The shall keep on file equin of all plane, specifications and sectimates prepared by the office. The shall sauce to be made and hept a general highway place of the State and shall collect such information as the department may require relation to mileage, character, construction and conditions of the highways and bridges in the State and shall investigate and determine the methods of road construction bret adapted to various sections of the State, and shall establish standards for the construction and maintenance of improved highways in various counties, giving due regard to the topography, natural conditions, character and availability of road building material.

Section 5- The State Highway Commissioner may with the approval of the State Board of affaire purchase for the State all necessary and office equipment or instruments that may be needed for the purposes of this act

Section 6 County Commissioners or county engineers of the several counties of this state, and the officine of all sities, towns and townships in the state, who now have, or may hereafter have by law, authority over the public highways and bridges, shall, upon the writted request of the State High way

Department, furnich said department with any information relative to the mileage, cost of building and maintenance, condition and character of the highways under their juris diction, and with any other needful information relating to the said highways. Section 7. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, and to create a fund for the mainteance of this department, a state lience fie of one dollar shall be charged annually the owner of each automobile owned by him. Said luince fee shall be collected by the State Highway Commissioners, and shall be used for the payment of the satary of the Highway Communioner, provided for in this act and the expenses of said office. any surplue from the above said amounto to be paid into the State Treasury. The State Highway Commissioner shall secure to the owner of said automobile the hence duly signed and sealed with the seal of his department, together with proper decereption for the proper identification of such automobile licence, record of which, together with the number of the licence, shall To made in the office of the State Highway Department. and no automobile so owned shall be operated within the State without having paid such annual State licence, under penalty of the law in such cases made an provided . now-residents operating automobiles within this State shall be required to pay the same licence as provided for in this Section. Nothing in this act shall be construed to interfere with the right of cities and towns to hence and regulate automobiles through the streets of such eities and towns . Section & The State Hughway Commissioner shall keep an accurate account of all the moneye received from licensee, as provided for in this act, and shall make a true and verified account of all receipts and expenditures of his office to the Governor of the State, on or before actober first of each year. Section 9. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting the power of the State to construct and build state highways and pay all costs of constructing and maintaining same under direction of the State Highway Commissioner.

Section 10. All acts and parts of acts in conflict Linwith are hereby repealed. Passed the House of Representatives this the 3rd day of March, 1911. Speaker of the House of Representatives. Parced the Senate this the 9th day of March, 1911. approved Morel Sextemps 1911 Governor of the State of aclahoma.



June 15, 1911 - Act to establish State Dept. of Highways becomes effective

April 23, 1923 – The Newcastle Bridge on SH-9 was completed as the first Federal Aid Project.

June 4, 1925 – A contract was awarded to construct the Hugo-Paris bridge, the first bridge over the Red River.

1926 - All states adopted uniform federal highway numbering. Oklahoma had nine designated highways totaling 2,120 miles by that year.

1930 –ODOT had 6,418 miles on the State Highway System and 2,800 employees, about 400 more employees than in 2011.

May 10, 1932 – Announcement of the construction of a Northwest Highway from OKC to Guymon, where no highway at the time existed.

July 17, 1934 – The US-66 Bridgeport Bridge, spanning 3,994 feet, was dedicated as the state's longest bridge.

September 23, 1935 – Federal Work Project Administration's (WPA) first Oklahoma project was awarded on what is now US-69 between Afton and Narcissa.

May 11, 1942 – The last WPA project was awarded in Oklahoma for concrete paving US-183 in Clinton.

1947 - Oklahoma Turnpike Authority created

1953 – The state's first turnpike, the Turner Turnpike, opens in May.

1956 - President Eisenhower signed the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956, for funding the Interstate System.

April 22, 1958 – Dedication of the first completed segment of interstate in Oklahoma on I-35 in Kay County

1966 – The I-40 Crosstown was completed through the heart of downtown Oklahoma City.

April 7, 1973 – Final east segment on I-40 opens from Checotah to Warner.

June 5, 1971 –McClellan-Kerr Arkansas River Navigation System dedicated at Port of Catoosa by President Richard Nixon

May 30, 1975 – Final west segment of I-40 opens from Erick to state line: made OK one of the first in the nation to complete its rural highway system.

1975 - With the exception of a portion of I-44, (which was finished in OKC in 1985), all of Oklahoma's interstate system was in place.

1985- ODOT became one of the first states to begin roadside beautification projects, such as wildflower planting, adopt-a-highway programs and an anti-litter campaign.

1999- Passenger train service returned to Oklahoma with the inaugural voyage of Amtrak's *Heartland Flyer*, running daily between Oklahoma City and Ft. Worth, TX.

May 26, 2002 - Webbers Falls barge accident, killing 14 people

December 2005- Construction began on the new I-40 Crosstown after over 10 years of planning, environmental studies and citizen input.

2006 – The 50th Anniversary of the creation of the Interstate System was celebrated, with ODOT as lead.

November 2008 - First construction contract for the widening of I-44 between Riverside-Yale (Perryman Ditch project) in Tulsa was awarded.

June 15, 2011 – ODOT celebrates it's 100th anniversary with the sealing of a time capsule to be opened in 2061.



100 Safety Advancements:

Representing a Century of Transportation

- Acceleration and deceleration lanes
- Access management / driveway permits
- Actuated signal timing sequences
- Airbags
- Arrowboards
- Ban on texting and cell phone use while driving state vehicles
- Barrels
- Better quality tires for stability
- Breakaway sign posts to minimize impact on vehicles when hit
- Bridge design improvements-prevent vehicle impacts to truss support structures
- Bridge inspections- every bridge inspected on two-year cycle for safety
- Bridge parapet safety rail to prevent vehicles from leaving bridge
- Bridge width increases for congestion management
- Cable Barrier to prevent cross over accidents
- Cattle guards- keep livestock from wandering onto roadways
- Changeable message signs / Dynamic Message Signs
- Changed height of guardrail to protect wide variety of vehicle heights
- Child safety seats required on vehicles
- Class 3 safety vests for enhanced reflectivity
- Closed Circuit TV Cameras
- Collapsible front ends added to vehicles
- Concrete barriers to prevent crossover accidents on major roads
- Concrete finishing treatments for skid resistance
- Cones
- Congestion Management-such as widening, dedicated ramps and stoplight timing

- Contrast striping black on white for enhanced visibility
- Control access fencing
- Crash cushions/impact attenuators to provide barrier for errant vehicles
- Cross Slope increases on roadway designsprevents hydroplaning
- Dedicated lanes to lessen merging and weaving traffic movements
- Delineators
- Divided highway system
- Epoxy coated reinforcing steel for durability of construction
- Exit speed limits
- Flaggers
- Flashing crosswalks
- Flashing signals
- Flashing warning lights in work zones
- Fluorescent sheeting in Oklahomareflective material on directional signs
- Friction courses on asphalt pavement to improve traction
- Front mounted snow plows
- Glass beads in paint for reflectivity/visibility
- Grade separations
- Guardrail and/or end treatments to guide cars
- Hardhats
- Herbicides create buffer zones for mowing
- Highway lighting
- Hydraulic snowplows
- Improved headlight technology
- Interstate system- to improve commerce and safety
- Invention of yield sign
- Larger size of signs/more legible
- LED traffic signal heads
- Limited-access highways

- Magnesium chloride on bridges as deicing agent
- Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices in Oklahoma creating uniform traffic language nationwide
- Mechanical traffic signals
- Mower technology improvements for worker/driver safety
- Multiple lane roadways
- Netting under bridges to catch falling debris
- No passing zone striping
- ODOT Ports of Entry-to improve commercial truck regulations and safety
- Off peak / night time construction to avoid heavy traffic times
- Paint truck- for efficient and safer painting operations
- Paved highways
- Paved shoulders on highways
- Pier protection system to keep boats/river debris from damaging bridge piers
- Portable traffic control signs (wind masters)
- Protected guards and safety shut-offs on mowers
- Protected turnarounds
- Public websites for traffic conditions
- Railroad crossing gates
- Railroad crossing lights
- Rear window defrosters added to vehicles
- Red/blue safety lights on all ODOT vehicles
- Right-of-way mowing to improve visibility
- Road weather sensors
- Roadside Clear Zone Policy providing recovery area on roadsides
- Route markers for directions
- RPMs reflective raised pavement markers increase centerline visibility in rain and at night
- Rumble strips to prevent vehicle runoff
- Safe Routes to School adding pedestrian walkways
- Safety Edge for easier recovery onto the highway
- Salt sheds around state allowing strategic storage for quick response in icy conditions

- Sand/salt for deicing in snow and ice operations
- School zones flashing yellow lights
- Seatbelts
- Sight distance improvements on roads with hills and curves
- Side delivery sand & salt spreaders
- Smart work zones
- Snow plows for clearing roads
- Specialized concrete for reducing corrosion on bridges
- Speed zones
- Stainless steel U-bolts in overhead signsmore strength, more secure
- Standardization of highway signage
- Stop signs
- "Super 2" projects allowing for passing on the right at intervals
- Tinting on concrete pavements
- Tracking & using accident/collision data to plan for safety features
- Daily traffic advisories statewide
- Traffic monitoring for congestion
- Twitter allowing traffic advisories to reach audiences quickly and directly
- Uniform speed limits
- Uniformity of colors/schemes of signs and pavement markings
- Video-actuated signals
- Weigh-in-Motion for commercial vehicles/trucks
- Wider driving lanes
- Wider shoulders
- Width of striping for high-volume roads improving visibility



I-35 Arbuckle Mountains, near Davis







US-77 Lexington/ Purcell Bridge









