

Schedule an ODOT Speaker for Your Civic Group FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 18, 2014 PR# 14-013

Speakers bureau representatives from the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's top management team have prepared a program to provide community organization with a comprehensive update on the state's transportation system.

In these presentations, the department would like the opportunity to report back on what ODOT has accomplished and is planning for the future, including information on area highway projects.

Thanks to these groups, along with the governor, state legislature and the public, transportation has been made a priority, incrementally increasing state funding to Oklahoma's system of highways and bridges.

Years of transportation underfunding created a large backlog of highway projects but with recent changes in transportation funding for roads and bridges, that's being reversed now, although it will take a few decades to address many issues. Because of these developments, the department will continue to provide updates on this progress and welcomes the chance to provide information to community groups.

The presentation will address these changes and how the department has scheduled numerous improvements in its Eight-year Construction Work Plan. The plan is allowing ODOT to address the state's backlog of deficient highway bridges, reducing the number of structurally deficient bridges by more than half since 2004.

Along with bridges, future transportation needs identified include improving pavement conditions and major highway corridors, adding shoulders to narrow two-lane highways and installing more miles of cable barrier.

Throughout the past two decades, ODOT has talked to many groups of community leaders about the importance of transportation to Oklahoma's success and looks forward to continuing in that role. To secure a date, contact Alisha Brown at abrown@odot.org, 405-521-6000 or Mills Gotcher at mgotcher@odot.org, 405-521-6008.

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