



May Commission Wrap-Up

I-40 Crosstown design work receives national engineering award; \$20 million in contracts awarded

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Highlights of the Oklahoma Transportation Commission's Monday, May 6 meeting include recognition of I-40 Crosstown design work by state and national engineering organizations, an update on proposed state transportation funding for the upcoming fiscal year and approval of two contracts for major road improvements in southwestern Oklahoma.

The I-40 Crosstown received recognition from a national engineering organization Monday. The American Council of Engineering Companies presented two awards to the commission, Oklahoma Department of Transportation and its four design consulting engineer firms involved in the design of the new interstate that opened to traffic in early 2012. Design work on the Crosstown recently received the Grand Conceptor Award for the best project in the state at the local ACEC Oklahoma Engineering Excellence Awards in January. The Crosstown also earned a National Recognition Award at the national ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards gala in Washington, D.C. in late April.

"Our member firms do a lot of work with ODOT and we are proud to partner with the department to create a great transportation system for the state of Oklahoma, and this award recognizes one of those projects," Jim Sullins, ACEC Oklahoma president and CEO, said.

As state lawmakers enter the final weeks of this year's legislative session, Patterson provided commissioners with an update on proposed transportation funding included in the state budget agreement announced last week by Gov. Mary Fallin and legislative leaders. In addition to motor fuel tax and fee revenue, ODOT receives a percentage of income tax collections, which go to the Rebuilding Oklahoma Access and Driver Safety fund created in 2005. House Bill 2248, which was signed into law in 2012, provides annual incremental funding increases to the ROADS fund beginning in State Fiscal Year 2014 until the fund reaches the \$575 million revenue cap.

"We will see an expected allocation of \$59.7 million from income tax revenue into the ROADS fund, which is a funding increase provided for by legislation passed last year to help implement the governor's plan to address our remaining structurally deficient highway bridges," ODOT Director Mike Patterson said. "The full statutory allocation of motor fuel tax revenue will also be coming to ODOT."

Two large projects were awarded to improve travel in southwestern Oklahoma. Commissioners voted to award a nearly \$3.9 million contract to resurface more than six miles of SH-7 just east of Lawton. They also approved a \$4.6 million contract to partner with the City of Altus to widen a portion of Park Lane. This project includes a combination of federal and city funds. The commission also awarded a \$1 million contract to install more than 15 miles of cable barrier on I-40 east of Shawnee in Pottawatomie and Seminole counties.

In all, commissioners awarded 22 contracts totaling more than \$20 million to improve highways, interstates and roads in 37 counties.

Contracts were awarded for projects in Adair, Alfalfa, Atoka, Beckham, Bryan, Caddo, Carter, Cherokee, Cleveland, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Creek, Garvin, Hughes, Jackson, Logan, Love, Major, Mayes, McClain, McCurtain, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee, Osage, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Seminole, Sequoyah, Tulsa, Wagoner, Washington, Washita, Woods and Woodward counties.

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INFORMATION RELEASE

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The eight-member panel, appointed by the governor to oversee the state's transportation development, awards project contracts for road and bridge construction every month. The panel's next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, June 3 at 11 a.m.** in the R.A. Ward Transportation Building in Oklahoma City.

Before a project is awarded, ODOT researches, plans and designs the work to be done. Contracts are bid competitively, with the OTC selecting the winning firm. Typically, work begins several weeks or months after contracts are awarded.

Contracts, bid information, the commission's monthly agenda and project details can be viewed at www.okladot.state.ok.us.

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



At the Oklahoma Transportation Commission's Monday, May 6 meeting, commissioners, Oklahoma Department of Transportation staff and design consulting engineer firms were presented with two awards from the American Council of Engineering Companies for design of the I-40 Crosstown in Oklahoma City. Pictured from left to right are Keith Angier of MacArthur Associated Consultants, Transportation Commission Chairman Greg Love, Jim Benson of Poe & Associates, Marty Hepp of Cobb Engineering, Alan Soltani of SAIC, Inc., ODOT Planning and Research Division Engineer John Bowman, Division Four Engineer Paul Green, Director of Engineering David Streb, ACEC Oklahoma president and CEO Jim Sullins and ODOT Director Mike Patterson.



Design work on the I-40 Crosstown in Oklahoma City, pictured here, was recently honored by the American Council of Engineering Companies. At the Oklahoma Transportation Commission's Monday, May 6 meeting, commissioners, Oklahoma Department of Transportation staff and four design consulting engineer firms involved in the design of the new interstate were presented with the Grand Conceptor Award for the best engineering project in the state from ACEC Oklahoma. The Crosstown also earned a National Recognition Award at the national ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards gala in Washington, D.C. in April.