



Gatz, Shell tapped to fill top ODOT positions

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oklahoma Department of Transportation Director Mike Patterson announced the promotion of two longtime employees to fill the agency's top leadership positions at the Oklahoma Transportation Commission's Monday, June 3 meeting. Tim Gatz, of El Reno, was named Deputy Director and will oversee all of the department's project management, administrative, financial, legislative and public information activities. Casey Shell, of Stillwater, was named Chief Engineer and will lead ODOT's preconstruction, construction and maintenance efforts statewide.

Gatz has more than two decades of service with ODOT, beginning his career with the agency as a Drafting Technician in 1990. In 1992, he became the Enhancements Program Coordinator, and then moved up to Special Projects Manager in 1997. In 2000, he became Division Manager of the Project Management Division, where he was instrumental in the development of ODOT's Eight-year Construction Work Plan. He was promoted to Director of Capital Programs and Information Management in 2006 and led the department's coordination with county governments to develop and deliver the County Improvements for Roads and Bridges program, which provides dedicated state funds for high-priority county transportation projects statewide. Gatz was named Deputy Director in May and succeeds Patterson, who was appointed as the agency's director in April.

Patterson was pleased to make the announcement. "Tim Gatz has helped implement and manage some of the department's most successful programs and will help ensure that ODOT continues to be one of the best-run agencies in the state," Patterson said.

Gatz earned a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from Oklahoma State University in 1989 and is a registered professional landscape architect. He has received several honors including the Oklahoma Good Roads & Transportation Association's Bill Skeith Stewardship Award, the Governor's Public Service Award and the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma's Connecting Transportation Partners acknowledgement. He is a member of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and the American Society of Landscape Architects. He and his wife, Sandy, live in El Reno and have two sons, Dillon and Trace.

Shell joined ODOT in 1986, and has served as Director of Operations since October 2009. Prior to that, he served as Division Engineer for the Division 4, which covers nine counties in north-central Oklahoma, including much of the Oklahoma City metro area. He will officially begin in his new role as Chief Engineer in July and will succeed Gary Evans, who is retiring.

Shell was born in California and graduated from the University of Arkansas with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1986, joining ODOT soon after as an Engineer-in-Training. In 1987, he became a Project Engineer at Stillwater, moving up to area Maintenance Engineer in 1992. He was named Resident Engineer in Perry in 1996, and in 2000, was promoted to Assistant Division Engineer for Construction and Maintenance, a post he held until being named Division Engineer in August 2002.

"Casey has been involved in some of ODOT's largest undertakings, including construction of the I-40 Crosstown, the ongoing effort to repair or replace all of our structurally deficient highway bridges and recent storm cleanup," Patterson said. "He will continue to prove himself to be a capable leader who is committed to ODOT's mission."

Shell has been a registered Professional Engineer since 1991. He is an honorary member of Chi Epsilon, an OSU engineering honor society. He is an assistant scout master with Boy Scout Troop 828 and a member of the Sunnybrook Church. He and his wife, Beth, who is a school teacher, live in Stillwater. They have a son, Parker, and a daughter, Darby.

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

INFORMATION RELEASE

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Tim Gatz was named Deputy Director of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation in May 2013. He has been with ODOT for more than twenty years and most recently served as Director of Capital Programs.



Casey Shell was named Chief Engineer for the Oklahoma Department of Transportation in June 2013. He began his career with ODOT in 1986 and most recently served as Director of Operations.