



## Public Invited to Celebrate 100 Years of Oklahoma's Transportation in Clinton

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Did you know...

- In 1933, a project to pave three miles of US-62 and build two bridges in Jackson County was awarded.
- In 1934, major flooding in western Oklahoma swept away bridges, roads, rails and houses, causing residents of Clinton to be marooned for days.
- In 1942, the widening of US-183 in the city of Clinton was completed, it was the last WPA project awarded in Oklahoma.
- On June 2, 1975, a ceremony was held on I-40 near Erick marking the completion of the final 17 miles of the 616 mile-long rural interstate highway system in Oklahoma.

These are just a few examples of the important moments in western Oklahoma's transportation history. In 1911, the Oklahoma Legislature approved House Bill 318 creating the State Highway Department. Highways help build the state's economy, bringing families closer together and making necessary goods and services available in ways likely never imagined in early-day Oklahoma.

This year, the Oklahoma Department of Transportation is highlighting the work of the past 100 years, and showing appreciation for public support by hosting a series of open houses statewide. The public is invited to join ODOT employees for the Division 5 headquarters celebration in Clinton on Thursday, June 2. The open house includes a centennial plaque dedication and a hot dog lunch. The Association of Oklahoma General Contractors and the Oklahoma Employees Credit Union are sponsors of this event.

Division 5 includes Beckham, Blaine, Custer, Dewey, Greer, Harmon, Jackson, Kiowa, Roger Mills, Tillman and Washita counties in western Oklahoma. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the history and milestones made in transportation in Oklahoma, ask questions about area projects and meet the people who work to keep the highways and interstates safe.

### ODOT Open House Centennial Celebration

Thursday, June 2

10:30 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

\*Light lunch served 11:30 a.m.\*

Division 5 Headquarters: 1745 S. US-183, south of Clinton

If you require special accommodations, please contact Division 5 Event Coordinator Yvonne Gholston at 580-323-1431. Additional information on the ODOT Centennial, including trivia, photos and events can be found at [www.okladot.state.ok.us/odot100](http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/odot100)

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**(Editors and News Directors: The media is welcome to attend. For more information call the ODOT Media & Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)**

INFORMATION RELEASE

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