



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Did you know...

- On April 23, 1923, the first bridge over the South Canadian River near Newcastle was completed. It replaced a toll ferry which operated intermittently.
- On March 21, 1938, construction began on a project to build US-270 in Oklahoma County, including a traffic circle at May Avenue and Northwest Highway.
- On May 18, 1958, the first segment of interstate in Oklahoma under the Federal Interstate Act of 1956 was completed on I-35 in northern Kay County.
- On June 8, 1976, House Bill 1791 was approved creating the Department of Transportation and abolishing the Department of Highways. It also renamed the Highway Commission to the Transportation Commission.

These are just a few examples of the important moments in north-central 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 4 headquarters celebration in Perry on Wednesday, June 8. The Open House includes a centennial plaque dedication and a hot dog lunch. The Association of Oklahoma General Contractors, the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Employees Credit Union are sponsors of this event.

Division 4 includes Canadian, Garfield, Grant, Kay, Kingfisher, Logan, Noble, Oklahoma and Payne counties in north-central 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

Wednesday, June 8

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

Light lunch served 11:30 a.m.

Division 4 Headquarters: 2609 West US-77 in Perry

If you require special accommodations, please contact Division 4 Event Coordinator Brock Vorndran at 580-336-7340. Additional information on the ODOT Centennial, including trivia, photos and events can be found at www.okladot.state.ok.us/odot100

---www.okladot.state.ok.us---

(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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