



## 100 Years of Oklahoma's Transportation Celebrated in Duncan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Oklahoma Department of Transportation opened its doors to the public in Duncan on Wednesday, Nov. 9, to celebrate 100 years of transportation in our state. Hundreds of current and former employees of Division 7 joined citizens and dignitaries for an open house and to tour displays of equipment and historic memorabilia.

"This is our final stop for the open house celebrations across the state this year," ODOT Director of Engineering David Streb said. "We enjoy sharing these centennial events with so many and providing educational opportunities about our transportation system and programs."

Division 7 includes Caddo, Carter, Comanche, Cotton, Grady, Jefferson, Love, Murray and Stephens counties. This area has a long history of important transportation moments, including:

- In October 1924, a convict labor camp was established to assist in the difficult rock excavation needed to construct SH-4 across the Arbuckle Mountains in Murray and Carter counties.
- In April 1942, the first project to pave SH-49 between Cache and the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Comanche County was awarded.
- In November 24, 1965, a project to build five bridges along I-35 in Love and Carter counties completed.
- In March 1985, a dedication ceremony was held at the Ft. Sill Reservation celebrating resuming rail service from Chickasha, through Anadarko, Fort Sill, to Wichita Falls, TX.

A comprehensive look at the origins of transportation in our state can be found in the new coffee table book, *ODOT100: Celebrating the First 100 Years of Transportation in Oklahoma*. This limited edition book traces the origins of transportation in our state, the challenges faced throughout the decades and the current accomplishments on topics such as interstates, bridges, waterways and rail. It also includes many compelling stories and historic photos. Purchases can be made by check or credit card (no cash purchases) at the Div. 7 office in Duncan, located at 2205 US-81 Bypass, or by calling 580-255-7586.

The open house events are sponsored by the Association of Oklahoma General Contractors, the Oklahoma Employees Credit Union and the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma. Information on the ODOT centennial can be found at [www.okladot.state.ok.us/odot100](http://www.okladot.state.ok.us/odot100).

---[www.okladot.state.ok.us](http://www.okladot.state.ok.us)---

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



INFORMATION RELEASE

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To help commemorate 100 years of transportation in Oklahoma, a plaque will be placed at each of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation division offices statewide. Dedicating the plaque at the Duncan office on Nov. 9, are {from left to right} ODOT Director of Engineering David Streb, Oklahoma Transportation Commissioner Bradley Burgess, ODOT Division 7 Engineer Bob Rose and ODOT Director of Operations Casey Shell.