## Oklahoma Senate Committee on Appropriations

## 2013-14 Performance Report

# **Oklahoma Department of Transportation**

#### AGENCY MISSION STATEMENT:

To provide a safe, economical and effective transportation network for the people, commerce and communities of Oklahoma.

## LEAD ADMINISTRATOR:

Gary Ridley, Director gridley@odot.org 405-522-1800

#### **GOVERNANCE:**

The State Transportation Commission consists of eight members, one from each of the transportation districts established by statute. The commission members are appointed by the governor, with the consent of the Senate. Members must have been a resident of their district for at least three years and are appointed for staggered terms of eight years each.

## **MODERNIZATION EFFORTS:**

The Department continues seek improvement initiatives that have been both legislatively prescribed and through new best practices. The agency is fully engaged in the adoption of shared services through the Office of State Finance. The effort to upgrade the ODOT legacy systems to the improved shared services has been ongoing for the last three (3) years. ODOT continues to seek improved construction and maintenance practices and contracting practices that provide service and cost efficiencies.

## **CORE MISSION:**

The Department of Transportation is charged with the planning, construction, operation, maintenance and coordination of designated multi-model transportation systems designed to meet present and future statewide transportation needs of the State of Oklahoma. Coordination of the development and operation of transportation facilities in the state includes, but is not limited to, highways, public transportation, railroads and waterways.

#### PRIVATE ALTERNATIVES:

The Department has a long history of using the private sector for all phases of agency operations. Most recently in lieu of hiring more employees, the agency acquired additional services from the private sector when funding was provided through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Additionally, as additional state revenues have been provided to ODOT the size of government did not grow in terms of additional employees but rather additional assistance was acquired from the private sector.