

Oklahoma 2035 Long Range Plan Advisory Committee Interview Summary January 4, 2010

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) conducted public outreach as part of its effort to develop the 2035 Long Range Plan. The outreach included:

- The development of a Web site oklongrangeplan.com as a central source of information
- Establishing stakeholder advisory committees (Personal Travel, Freight Travel, Technical and Tribal), interviewing committee members regarding challenges and opportunities for transportation between 2010 and 2035, and discussing interview results and transportation planning priorities.
- Hosting 14 public meetings from Nov. 2-17 across the state and through media and ODOT distribution lists encouraged stakeholders to not only attend but provide feedback and comment in a number of ways.
- The development of a public survey, which was available online and at all 14 public meetings.
- The development of an interview for the 78 Advisory Committee members.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE INTERVIEW SPECIFICS

The interview included a series of questions, with opportunities to provide written comments to elaborate for each question.

Total Interviews Submitted: 78 (27 from the Freight Advisory Committee, 25 from the Personal Travel Committee, 21 from the Technical Advisory Committee and five from the Tribal Advisory Committee).

HIGHLIGHTS OF INTERVIEW STATISTICS

- 52 of 76 respondents rated the transportation system in “Fair” condition.
- 10 of 76 rated the system in “Poor” condition.
- 44 of 76 respondents said the system “Somewhat improved” over the past five years, while another three respondents said the system was “Much improved.”
- 16 of 76 respondents said the system was “Somewhat worse”.
- Emphasis on Roadways, Bridges and Highways:
 - 25 of 30 respondents ranked “Roadways” as the most important related to mobility, and 16 ranked “Public Transit” second (Specific question asked of the Personal and Travel Committees).
 - 43 of 48 respondents ranked “Highways” as the most important factor for economic development, while 26 ranked “Freight Railroads” second (Specific question asked of the Freight and Technical Committees).
 - 17 of 51 respondents ranked “Increased maintenance on existing roadways” as the most important factor in enhancing person and passenger mobility, while nine respondents ranked “Improved/additional bus services” first (Specific question asked of the Personal, Technical and Tribal Committees).
 - 20 of 48 respondents ranked “Increased maintenance of existing roadways” as the first priority to enhance goods movement, followed by 10 who ranked “Widen existing highways” second (Specific question asked of the Freight and Technical Committees).
 - The majority of respondents ranked “Increased maintenance of roads and bridges” as the most important funding priority related to movement of people and movement of goods.
- 11 of 15 respondents indicated “No” when asked if they are satisfied with the ability of the system to support their supply chain logistics system (Specific question asked of the Freight Committee).
- How would it all be paid for?
 - 28 respondents selected “Increased gasoline tax” as their first or second choice.
 - 26 respondents selected “Increased diesel tax” as their first or second choice.
 - The most popular third choice was “Increased diesel tax”.
 - In questions that asked respondents what specific revenue would they agree to be targeted to support a particular transportation mode, the selections included raising gasoline or diesel tax or redirect some of the current funds.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS TO SELECTED FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS

- *If you could change two things about transportation in Oklahoma – what would they be?*
 - Of 75 responses, there were 28 mentions for continued **focus on maintaining/improving roadways and bridges**.
 - 19 responses mention **more/improved rail/rail facilities**.
 - 16 responses mention **more/new revenue increases for transportation modes**.
 - 11 responses mention **improved/expanded bus services**.
 - 5 responses mention improving ports.

- *Describe how Oklahoma’s transportation system can best be improved to enhance Oklahoma’s economy over the long run (Specific question to the Technical, Personal and Tribal Committees)?*
 - Of 45 responses, there were 16 mentions that supported **improving multi-modal/public transit systems**.
 - 14 responses mention **improving/widening roadways**.
 - Eight responses mention **improving rail service**.

- *Identify the two most beneficial improvements to the freight transportation system in Oklahoma that would enhance Oklahoma’s economy (Specific question to the Freight Advisory Committee)?*
 - Of 27 responses, there were 14 mentions that supported **improving infrastructure/widening roadways**.
 - 12 responses mention **improving rail service/rail connections**.
 - 11 responses mention **improving other transportation modes such as air and ports**.
 - Four responses mention **improving Intelligent Transportation Systems**.
 - Three responses mention **eliminating tolls**.