

Rogers County Public Relations
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Commissioners applaud new law strengthening transportation and infrastructure

Claremore, Okla. — Rogers County Commissioners extends gratitude to legislators for their work and support of House Bill 2758, a critical piece of legislation that provides up to \$75 million in funding for county roads and bridges across the state.

The passage of HB2758 was made possible through strong legislative leadership. The commissioners recognize Representative Trey Caldwell, Senator John Haste, and Senator Chuck Hall for championing the bill that Governor Kevin Stitt signed into law last week.

Representing a major investment in local infrastructure, the bill ensures safer, more efficient transportation for travelers and businesses alike.

Establishing the Preserving and Advancing County Transportation (PACT) Fund, the bill is designed to enhance and sustain the county highway system. To finance this initiative, the legislation redirects a portion of the gross production tax on natural gas from Oklahoma's general revenue fund, allocating those resources specifically to the PACT Fund for infrastructure improvements.

It further directs funds allocated to the PACT Fund to be distributed with two-thirds going to counties based on their highway construction and maintenance ratio per mile, while the remaining one-third is designated for rebuilding county bridges on major collector routes.

It also establishes a target funding ratio of **\$4,000 per county road mile** for highway construction and maintenance. Counties falling below this threshold will receive priority funding until all reach the set ratio.

Commissioner Chair Steve Hendrix (District 2) emphasized the significance of this funding, stating, "House Bill 2758 is a transformative investment into our county's infrastructure. I am grateful for this dedication to respond this way not only to our county's transportation needs but also to our county roads throughout the state."

He said this funding will allow the county to do more by upgrading vital roadways and bridges, safeguarding public safety, and supporting the continued development of Rogers County.

Commissioner Dan DeLozier (District 1), who is also Vice President of the Association of County Commissioners of Oklahoma board, highlighted how legislative advocacy can shape the outcome in county government.

DeLozier said, "We can address long-overdue repairs to roads and bridges a lot sooner—projects that really need to get done outside of the limited funds we have—thanks to this bill passing."

He also stated that receiving legislative updates during monthly ACCO meetings gave a sense of optimism. He mentioned that commissioners serving on various boards demonstrate how they take on additional responsibilities that significantly influence county government operations and decision-making.

Commissioner Ron Burrows (District 3) brought into focus the impact of this bill, stating, "Thanks to the unwavering advocacy of our legislators, we will now have the resources to eliminate deficient bridges and improve road safety across our area. This critical funding not only enhances public safety but also bolsters our efforts to drive regional progress—empowering local officials to make lasting improvements."

To access these funds, counties must submit project proposals to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) for review and approval.