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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES JOHN KILPATRICK
TURNPIKE NORTH CANADIAN RIVER AND OVERFLOW BRIDGE WIDENING
AND RE-DECKING PROJECT**

Construction To Be Completed In 2020

OKLAHOMA CITY (Oct. 30, 2018) – The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority (OTA) entered a contract to widen the North Canadian River bridges and overflow bridges as traffic volumes continue to grow rapidly on the west section of the John Kilpatrick Turnpike north of the I-40 interchange. Construction will begin on Thurs, Nov. 1, 2018.

“To continue to provide the safest possible passage and the best level of service to the traveling public and our PIKEPASS customers, we are needing to continue with the turnpike widening initiative that was started on the northern leg of the John Kilpatrick Turnpike between Eastern Ave. and MacArthur Blvd.,” OTA Executive Director Tim Gatz said. “While the complete widening project for the west section is currently unscheduled, the North Canadian River and overflow bridges present very challenging traffic management issues for widening even under current traffic conditions.”

OTA is proceeding with a bridge widening project in advance of completing the Driving Forward extension of the John Kilpatrick Turnpike south of I-40 to connect to SH-152.

“Opening the south extension is expected to increase traffic and the traffic growth rate on the full extent of the Kilpatrick Turnpike, making it prudent to initiate and complete the bridge widening now,” Gatz said. “As a part of the bridge widening, most of the existing bridge beams and deck will be replaced to fix deteriorated sections and deck profile issues.”

The construction project was awarded to Manhattan Road and Bridge at the Sept. 25, 2018 OTA Board meeting for \$55M and is expected to begin Nov. 1 and be completed in 2020. The work zone will be approximately two-and-a-half miles long extending from the Route 66 interchange North to the Wilshire interchange. OTA anticipates short periods of one lane travel within the work zone and no change of access at Route 66 or Wilshire during the project.

“OTA and our contractors appreciate the patience of the traveling public and look forward to the completion of this important infrastructure enhancement to our network,” Gatz said. “We are investing in

our infrastructure with a constant focus on safety, traffic management and the growing needs of our system."

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About Oklahoma Turnpike Authority

Oklahoma Turnpike Authority was established in 1947 to construct, operate and maintain the Turner Turnpike. Today, Oklahoma turnpikes are the safest and quickest ways to travel across the state. Oklahoma Turnpike Authority is managing multiple renovations throughout the state to maintain and operate the turnpike system to the highest standard. To learn more about the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority and recent projects, visit, www.pikepass.com.

For more information about the OTA's Driving Forward program, please visit www.drivingforwardok.com.