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October OTA Board Meeting Wrap-Up

Board approves preliminary 2023 budget; \$44 million for electronic tolling system maintenance

The Oklahoma Turnpike Authority board approved the preliminary budget for the 2023 calendar year at its Tuesday, Oct. 25, meeting. The routine vote helps establish a basis for the final budget set to be presented to the board at the December board meeting.

"I appreciate the work staff puts into the annual budget and the level of detail they do to help explain in a very transparent way what the Turnpike Authority is going to try to complete in 2023." Secretary of Transportation and OTA Executive Director Tim Gatz said. "

Board members also approved a five-year contract extension worth more than \$44 million with TransCore, LP for continued maintenance of the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority's electric tolling system.

During his report to the board, Sec. Gatz offered an update on the opening of the Gilcrease Expressway. "We're more than a couple weeks away but we can plan on opening by the end of November," Gatz said. "We're all certainly looking forward to that day as the Gilcrease is such an important connector on the west side of Tulsa."

The board, a six-member panel appointed by the governor to an eight-year term to oversee turnpike development, awards project contracts for road and bridge construction on a monthly basis.

The next Oklahoma Turnpike Authority board meeting is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, at the Oklahoma Department of Transportation Commission Room, 200 N.E. 21st St., Oklahoma City. The meeting also will be available to view live online.