



OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## INFORMATION RELEASE

Media & Public Relations Division

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### **\$7.5 million approved for local projects benefiting bicycle, pedestrian transportation**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Oklahoma's getting a boost in delivering a more connected transportation system for bicycle and pedestrian traffic in several cities, counties, schools and state parks in Oklahoma. At its Monday, March 4, meeting, the Oklahoma Transportation Commission approved \$7.5 million for 21 local projects as part of the Transportation Alternatives Program. The program is federally funded and administered by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

Through TAP, federal funds provide up to 80 percent of the total cost of the projects, while the applicants must provide at least 20 percent. Eligible applicants include communities with less than 5,000 population.

Funding for TAP is designated for projects like sidewalks, pedestrian and bicycle trails, streetscapes, safe routes to school and environmental or historical preservation projects. TAP came about in 2012, when the U.S. Congress approved the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act which consolidated several previous transportation enhancement, trail and safe routes to school project categories into one program to allow more flexibility at the state and local levels.

A few of the projects receiving TAP funding include a City of Thomas share the road bike lane, an American Disabilities Act, compliant sidewalk connecting schools and businesses in Chouteau and a sidewalk alongside SH-7 that connects the town of Sulphur.

This year's TAP application process was very competitive with a total of 71 eligible project applications submitted to ODOT. The department worked with Oklahoma's 11 regional planning districts to review and recommend projects, taking regional priorities and available funding into consideration.

A full list and a map of projects receiving TAP funding are available at [www.odot.org/tap](http://www.odot.org/tap)

For more information about the projects, contact the local applicants.