



**CITY OF NORMAN, OK  
CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLANNING &  
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,  
OK 73069**

**Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 4:00 PM**

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**MINUTES**

The Community Planning & Transportation Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building, on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at 4:00 PM, and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Holman called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilmember Ward 2 Matthew Peacock  
Councilmember Ward 3 Robert Bruce  
Councilmember Ward 5 Brandon Nofire  
Mayor Stephen Holman - Chair

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant  
Councilmember Ward 6 Joshua Hinkle  
Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney  
Mr. Taylor Johnson, Transit Parking and Program Manager  
Mr. Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works  
Mr. Tim Miles, City Engineer  
Ms. Amy Shepard, Management Analyst  
Mr. Clint Mercer, Director of Finance  
Mr. Ron Brown, District 3 Engineer, ODOT  
Ms. Kayla Burd, Transportation Project Manager, Freese & Nichols  
Ms. Kathy Griffith, Administrative Technician III, City Clerk

## AGENDA ITEMS

### 1. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE HIGHWAY NINE SAFETY REPORT WITH THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

Mr. Ron Brown, District 3 Engineer, Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) gave an update regarding safety conditions along the State Highway 9 corridor. The corridor has experienced ongoing safety concerns, including over 100 crashes between 2017 and 2022, with several fatal incidents.

Staff and consultants reviewed the results of a Road Safety Audit conducted along the corridor from 48th Avenue to 120th Avenue. The study evaluated traffic operations, crash data, roadway characteristics, and future conditions. Findings identified key contributing factors to crashes, including speed, failure to yield, turning conflicts, and limited access management.

The corridor currently includes multiple access points, limited turn lanes, varying lane configurations, and high travel speeds, all contributing to safety challenges.

Consultants presented several improvement strategies focused on reducing conflict points and improving traffic predictability, including enhanced lighting and signage, targeted speed adjustments, access management strategies, and the potential use of medians, Restricted Crossing U-Turns (RCUTs), and traffic signals at select intersections.

Three primary alternatives were presented:

- Alternative 1: Full corridor access management with continuous medians and RCUTs
- Alternative 2: Phased implementation focusing on higher-growth areas
- Alternative 3: Lower-cost improvements including signage, striping, and targeted safety upgrades

The preferred long-term recommendation is a phased approach utilizing Alternatives 1 or 2 to provide comprehensive corridor-wide safety improvements.

ODOT indicated that no funding is currently programmed for implementation and that long-term improvements could take 10–20 years.

Council expressed concern regarding continued safety issues and emphasized the need for immediate, short-term improvements while long-term solutions are developed. Discussion included support for low-cost, high-impact measures such as improved lighting, pavement markings, signage, flashing beacons, barriers, additional right-turn lanes and the importance of maintaining visibility and safe driving conditions, particularly at night and during inclement weather.

Councilmembers highlighted the importance of prioritizing safety improvements, pursuing grant opportunities, and coordinating with ODOT on interim solutions.

Council expressed consensus to prioritize short-term safety improvements and pursue low-cost, high-impact strategies while continuing to evaluate and plan for long-term corridor solutions.

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## 2. PRESENTATION OF THE FEBRUARY PUBLIC TRANSIT REPORT.

Mr. Taylor Johnson, Transit Parking and Program Manager, presented the February 2026 monthly report. Staff is currently working with contractors, (EMBARK & VIA) evaluating security enhancements, service adjustments and cost management and reductions to maximize funding while providing the best possible service.

Fleet updates include the replacement of one Paratransit vehicle in July/August and three buses next spring. An additional replacement has been requested and is under review for grant funding.

- Total ridership: 42,536 - up from 36,713 previous February
  - West Lindsey Route has seen a 53% weekday ridership increase and 100% Saturday increase
- Norman On-Demand Ridership - 2,200 versus 4,000 same time last year
- Average wait time at 17 minutes versus 30 minutes previously
- Bike usage increased by 66%

Norman Transit has seen increased route efficiency, improved service reliability and adjustments made to maintain cost efficiency.

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## 3. PROJECT UPDATES AND DISCUSSION OF THE ACCESS OKLAHOMA - EAST/WEST CORRIDOR.

Mr. Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works gave an update to council on the East/West Corridor letting council know the pier drilling is underway for the Bridge over Canadian River, with the Pond filling near Indian Hills over 2/3 complete.

The 36th Avenue NW Project will be done in phases, with construction starting early next year on Phase 2. The Federal funding timeline is spread over a five-year window in four phases.

National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) approval is required before construction can be done and utility relocation and right-of-way acquisition ongoing. The goal is to combine phases for maximum cost efficiency when possible.

Mr. Sturtz gave a status of funding & grants received and/or applied for by Public Works, with recent awards totaling over \$40 million, including:

- \$15.5 million (transportation-related funding)
- \$1 million (roundabout project)
- \$1 million (fleet-related funding)
- Roundabout project (Hollywood Corners area)
- Collaboration with Absentee Shawnee Tribe

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 pm.

ATTEST

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City Clerk

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Mayor