



## Project Name

Evaluation of County Improvements for Roads & Bridges Program  
21-345-02 CIRB

Priority Program Evaluation: the expected completion is six to eight months from the date of the entrance conference, which took place October 7, 2020.

## Project Background

The County Improvements for Roads and Bridges (CIRB) Fund was created in 2006 with legislation dedicating a portion of state motor vehicle revenues to major county road and bridge projects. This fund was seen as a companion to the existing ROADS fund, which dedicated funds to ODOT's highway construction plan. The growing public concern of Oklahoma's deficient roads and bridges has necessitated a review of the CIRB program's outcomes and effectiveness.

## Original Scope and Project Description

### **Project Description:**

Review the progress in infrastructure maintenance and repair contributed to the CIRB program.

### **Scope of Work:**

Complete a performance-based review of the CIRB program based on evidence of repaired or replaced county roads and bridges compared to the allocated fiscal funding.

## Material Findings from Entrance Conference

During the entrance conference with Secretary Gatz and various ODOT staff, the LOFT evaluation team was made aware of efforts by ODOT's Executive leadership to pursue initiatives and investments in technology and assets to ameliorate CIRB fund allocation, administrative coordination, and output tracking.

Based on the discussions held at the entrance conference, the LOFT evaluation team could explore several pathways for the program evaluation, including:

1. Examine/analyze the allocation of funds to the CIRB program against the associated outputs, versus, the performance of other county road and bridge improvement/maintenance programs.
2. Examine the efficacy of the repair/maintenance request process.
3. Examine the efficacy of possibly aligning the CED district boarders with that of the ODOT divisions.
4. Evaluate/analyze the current tax revenue process regarding road and bridge maintenance against proposed changes and additions, such as taxing EVs.
5. Compare Oklahoma's CIRB program performance to applicable peer state programs.

## Evaluation Objectives

To accurately capture the severity of Oklahoma roads and bridges associated with the allocated funds awarded, our recommendation is that this process take the following form:

1. Briefly examine the historical context behind the CIRB program including funding reclamations, CED establishment, tax revenue changes, and review of the 5-year Plan process.
2. Examine/analyze the funding provided to various county roads compared to the economic impact and traffic count of the same road.
3. Evaluate the efficacy of having multiple funds that all relate to the maintenance and repair of Oklahoma's roads and bridges (ROAD, CIRB, County Highway fund, CBRI, etc.)
4. Assess the success of the CIRB program based on the objectives originally listed in statute.

