“We are always yapping about the ‘Good Old Days’ and how we look away back and enjoy it, but I tell you there is a lot of hooey to it.”

– Will Rogers
The Teens

- First Commission Created
  - No Highway Department
  - No Highway System
- $72,000 Total Budget
- 36,000 Miles of Public Roads
The Twenties

• Highway System Created
• Highway Department Created
• First Gas Tax – 1 cent per gallon
• 200,000 Vehicles/8,800 highway miles (1,400 Paved)
• Highway Commission Structure Changed Twice
Operation of the Henderson Ferry at Norfork Lake cost $117,981 for 1947-48. During this period, 189,856 vehicles were ferried over at an average cost of 62¢ per vehicle.

- **Gas Tax Raised to 6.5 cents per Gallon**
- **1960’s Before Next Increase**
- **9,700 Highway Miles (4,900 Paved)**
- **Commission Structure Changed Four More Times**
- **Too much Political Influence on Highways**
  - Growing Discontent

Magnet Truck, Picked up an average of 20 lbs of metal per mile
The Fifties

1951 - Highway Audit Commission Report

- "the advice, counsel and expert know-how which is available from the Department’s own technical and administrative staffs bear scant weight indeed when they are in conflict with the political pressures and political promises of the moment."

- Interstate Era
- 11,000 Miles State Highways (8,800 Paved)

9 Legislative Acts Restructured Commission since 1913

1952 – Mack Blackwell Amendment

Widening Hwy 67 near Malvern, 1956
The Sixties and Seventies

- **No changes to Commission Structure**
- **Department became Debt Free**
- **Legislature transferred nearly 4,400 more miles of County Roads to Highway System**
- **Department adds “Transportation” to its name – Authority Expanded**
- **1st State to Complete its Interstate System (1975)**
- **16,000 Highway Miles (15,000 Paved)**
The Eighties and Nineties

• 1985 – Rural Road Program – out of the mud
• Early Retirements – huge workforce turnover
• 1991 – Highway Improvement Program
• 1993 – Last Federal Gas Tax Increase
• 1999 – Last State Gas Tax Increase
• 1999 – Interstate Rehabilitation Program – First Highway Bond Issue in 50 years
• I-540 (now I-49) and I-530 Completed
• 16,400 Highway Miles
The New Millennium

Winter Weather in Dec 2000 and Jan 2001 cost almost $40 M.

- Governor’s Working Group on Highway Funding
- 2011 – 2nd Interstate Rehabilitation Program
- 2012 – Connecting Arkansas Program
- 16,400 miles State Highways

New White River Bridge on Hwy 64 at Augusta opened in 2001.
Today and Tomorrow
Matters of Scale
Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2020 (STIP)

- Federal Requirement for Federally Funded and Regionally Significant Transportation and Transit Projects

- 4-Year Minimum

- Required Components:
  - Demonstration of Financial Constraint
  - Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Coordination
  - Public Involvement
  - Performance Management
Regional Projects
Bridge Maintenance and System Preservation

- Selected sections of I-555 from I-55 to Jonesboro
- Just under 39 miles
- Estimated between $45 and $50 Million
Selected sections of U.S. Highway 67 from Cabot to Newport

- Just under 59 miles
- Estimated between $65 and $70 Million
State Highway 18

Recently Completed
- 7.1 miles
- $23 million

Under Construction
- 14.2 miles
- $45.3 million

Scheduled
- 2.4 miles
- $35-40 million
Jonesboro & Craighead County

Projects in the Future
State Highway 1-B

Programmed

- 3.1 miles
- $1.8 million
State Highway 18

Programmed

$14.5 million
State Highway 18S

Programmed

- 4.34 miles
- $5-10 million
U.S. Highway 49

Programmed

- $9 million
Programmed

- 1.35 miles
- $20.4 million
State Highway 351

Programmed

- 0.9 miles
- $14 million
14 Projects

- 32.88 Miles
- $16.7 Million
Funding
Average Monthly Household Expenditures

- Electricity/Gas: $160.00
- TV/Internet: $124.00
- Telephone: $161.00
- Roads: $46.00

Total: $491.00
2015 Road User Related Tax Revenue

Total Road User Revenue Collected = $1.12 Billion

Road/Highway Revenue 61%

- Motor Fuel Taxes $438.40 M
- Registration Fees $122.26 M
- New Vehicles $214.03 M
- Used Vehicles $98.33 M
- Auto Repair $106.44 M
- Retail Tire Sales $13.41 M
- Miscellaneous $49.43 M
- Natural Gas Severance Tax $74.25 M

General Revenue 39%
Total Road User Revenue Collected = $1.12 Billion

AHTD Road User Revenue = $435.7 M = 39%
• ArkansasHighways.com
• ConnectingArkansasProgram.com
• Vimeo.com/AHTD
• IDriveArkansas.com
• Twitter.com @AHTD
Questions?