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## **K-23 construction project wins innovative management award**

A practical improvement project on K-23 in Gove County has been selected as a regional winner in the innovative management, small project category of 2011 America's Transportation Awards competition.

As a regional winner, the project will be considered for inclusion in the top 10 projects in the competition. The top 10 will be announced in late August and these projects will then compete for the Grand Prize and People's Choice Award.

The annual contest is sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

The American Reinvestment and Recovery Act project was designed to improve 16 miles of the highway from the Lane-Gove county line to approximately the southern city limits of Gove. Work began on the project in March 2010 and was completed in August 2010.

Rebuilding the roadway included removing the deteriorated pavement, stabilizing the base and adding seven inches of new asphalt material. The new highway has 12-foot driving lanes and two-foot-wide paved shoulders with rumble strips – an added safety feature that alerts travelers who are driving too close to the road's edge.

A portion of the original roadway dated back to the Depression-era Works Progress Administration and needed to be replaced it. Using Practical Improvement standards, the cost effective approach to construction saved an estimated \$11 million dollars.

KDOT's traditional approach to this project would have involved right of way acquisition and significant grading. The final cost of construction was \$7.8 million.

You can learn more about the winning project and the competition at [www.americastransportationaward.org](http://www.americastransportationaward.org).

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