



## OKLAHOMA ASPHALT PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION

3500 N. LINCOLN BLVD • OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105  
LARRY E. PATRICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (405) 524-7675 • FAX (405) 524-7677

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### COVID-19 OFFICIAL STATEMENT

**Oklahoma City, OK** – The Oklahoma Asphalt Pavement Association (OAPA) is closely monitoring events related to the Coronavirus / COVID-19 virus outbreak to assess what impact it will have on association operations, as well as the industry as a whole. OAPA is well positioned to continue operations uninterrupted and has been working to establish virtual meeting and webinar technologies. Some in-person meetings and events, however, may be disrupted or delivered in alternate formats as events warrant. Members will be notified if it is necessary for these changes to be implemented.

#### **WHAT IS NEW:**

The COVID-19 flu virus, commonly referred to as the novel coronavirus, originated in China late last year and has been spreading quickly to other countries, including the United States. Oklahoma is one of the states impacted, and local governments are working to mobilize resources to understand the nature of the flu-like virus, how it is spread, and what health implications it will bring with it.

Business operations could be disrupted or are anticipated in manufacturing, the service industry, the energy sector and elsewhere. The asphalt pavement industry broadly (asphalt producers, refiners, binder suppliers, paving contractors and others) are strongly encouraged to access the latest information from trusted public health sources to take measures to protect employees, customers, vendors and others.

Suppliers of services should also be in close contact with prime contractors, as well as project owners, to anticipate any potential disruptions in the delivery of raw materials, supplies, services, and to understand what impact personnel disruptions may have on project scheduling and payments. Contract documents should also be reviewed to ensure clear understanding of language related to potential supply and scheduling disruptions. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT), to cite one example of a prominent project owner, has not released any official guidance specific to coronavirus to the construction industry. A spokesperson from ODOT has stated that they are following the Oklahoma Department of Health guidelines for prevention and containment.

#### **IMPACT TO OAPA:**

The impacts so far range from very minor, such as new office cleaning protocols & meeting attendance limits, to postponement of some OAPA training classes and potential impacts to the association's annual meeting April 30-May 2 in Kansas City. With regard to the Annual Meeting, the association expects to proceed as planned with the meeting in accordance with guidance from public health officials and the venue. We will continue to monitor the situation and update the membership if anything would change.

#### **OTHER IMMEDIATE OAPA IMPACTS:**

Right now, we are canceling the March Asphalt Road Show dates. The topic "Transitioning from Profilograph to IRI" will be covered in June for both ARS dates. Updates to our website reflect this information. We are in discussion with LTAP regarding our April 28th date in Stillwater. As we are updated, we will keep you informed.

#### **ASSOCIATION CONTINGENCY PLANS:**

OAPA has contingency plans in place to continue operations uninterrupted. All staff have remote-access and tele-work capability, and information technology assets utilized by the association provide numerous ways for the association to deliver services. Most technical information assets are accessible via the OAPA website or email. If staff is not present in the office, the phone system forwards voice-mail messages electronically to cell phones. OAPA already extensively utilizes electronic communication and technology when possible.

For any group gatherings, we are capping attendance numbers so that there is sufficient room and no one is crowded. We are also only provided plated meals and no buffets to prevent accidental contamination.

#### **CONTACT US:**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding COVID-19 and OAPA's response, please let us know. Our goal is to keep our members safe, yet continue with business as usual when possible.

###