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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 2, 2015

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KDOT office receives national honor for programs that aid cities, counties

The Kansas Department of Transportation's Bureau of Local Projects has received national recognition for its innovative programs that have made a positive impact on the state's cities and counties.

The President's Transportation Award for Administration was presented to KDOT representatives in Chicago this week at the annual meeting of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, which represents the interest of all state departments of transportation at the national level.

Some of the programs administered by the KDOT bureau include:

- **Local Bridge Improvement Program.** This provides approximately \$10 million for the replacement of small, lightly-traveled, structurally deficient bridges. Despite the light travel, the bridges provide crucial connections for farmers to get to fields.
- **Federal Funds Exchange Program.** This provides local governments the opportunity to swap their federal funds, which come with many spending requirements, for state funds that carry fewer restrictions.
- **Practical Road Safety Assessment.** KDOT, at no charge, assists counties in developing ideas for safety improvements along specific corridors.
- **Kansas Local Bridge Evaluation Program.** This was initiated to bring Kansas into conditional compliance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards. Most of these bridges are on local road systems.

"KDOT programs provide great assistance and benefits to local communities, which the judges of this award recognized. Congratulations to members of the Bureau of Local Projects for their innovative programs and commitment to supporting cities and counties," Kansas Transportation Secretary Mike King said.

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