

Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66603



phone: 785-296-3585
fax: 785-368-7415
www.ksdot.org

Julie Lorenz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information:

Jeanny Sharp
785.296.3585

Public invited to unique drone flight commemoration

Who/What: The Kansas Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation will celebrate the first unmanned aircraft system (UAS) flights without visual observers and using only onboard detect-and-avoid systems.

When/Where: **9 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 8,** Hangar 600, 2720 Arnold Ct., in Salina.

Speakers: Lt. Gov. Lynn Rogers
Transportation Secretary Julie Lorenz
FAA Regional Administrator Joe Miniace

RSVP: <https://www.ippkansas.org/events-1/ipp-bvlos-flight-commemoration>

Information: In October 2017, the U.S. DOT received a Presidential Memorandum to identify participants to conduct advanced drone operations/test flights to collect data and develop FAA policies and regulations for the commercial use of drones. These policies and regulations are crucial to the development and implementation of new processes and technologies to spur economic development.

In May 2018, KDOT was one of 10 participants selected in the U.S. DOT's UAS Integration Pilot Program (IPP). KDOT conducted its first flights in August 2018 with the assistance of numerous IPP partners. Today specifically highlights the completion of the first-ever FAA authorized Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) flights without visual observers.

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