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Taylor retires after 42 years at KDOT

Director of Program and Project Management Mark Taylor will be retiring from the Kansas Department of Transportation on Sept. 7 after more than 42 years of service to the State of Kansas.

Taylor's entire working career has been at KDOT. While attending Kansas State University, he had internships at the agency for two summers. Then he joined KDOT in 1979, participating in the Rotational Training Program. He worked in the Bureau of Design for seven years, then was promoted to the Bureau of Project Selection, which was later named Program and Project Management. He was named Bureau Chief in January 2010, then became the Director when it became a Division in summer 2019.

"Mark Taylor has been a huge asset to the agency, not only for his technical skills, but for the soft skills necessary to be successful in any organization," said State Transportation Engineer/Deputy Secretary Burt Morey. "Mark has been a great sounding board to help refine solutions to all types of programming problems and more."

He has worked on all four of KDOT's multi-year transportation programs, with the first one starting in 1990. "I gradually got more involved with each one of programs as time progressed," Taylor said. "I enjoyed working with the puzzle of putting projects and money together."

Taylor plans to spend a lot of time with family. He and his wife, Kathie, have three children and eight grandchildren, all of whom live in the Kansas City area. "Every weekend it seems like we go see them or to the grandkids' ballgames," he said.

During his career, Taylor said the best part was meeting and working with a lot of good people, "and more importantly, sharing a lot of good laughs with those people."

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