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Wadley selected as KDOT Chief of Research

Dan Wadley has been named the Chief of the Bureau of Research for the Kansas Department of Transportation.

He started with KDOT in 2001 in the Bridge Inspection unit, performing in-service routing and fracture critical inspections on bridges and 500 series structures across the state. Wadley then worked in Bridge Set-Aside for several years until fully transferring to Bridge Design for new structures. Wadley was promoted in 2017 to the Research Operations Engineer where he coordinated research for the bureau. He became the Assistant Bureau Chief for two years before being selected Bureau Chief.

KDOT Research works with outside agencies and industry partners as a resource to the agency and region overseeing the K-Tran research cooperative, Ad Hoc research, Pooled Fund research as well as in-house research, construction assistance, specification development and training for DOT and local governments.

“We look at materials and processes beyond the current KDOT specifications, seeing what works and doesn’t work so we can incorporate the best practices into future KDOT specifications,” Wadley said.

Wadley enjoys canoeing or kayaking the Kansas River, gravel bike riding, trail running, volunteering, helping others with their DIY projects and building things out of concrete. He and his wife, Amber, have two children and reside in Topeka.

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