**MOVING PEOPLE, FREIGHT & TECHNOLOGY**

**CONNECTING TO HEALTH & SAFETY**

- 15 hospitals in the region, 12 are critical access hospitals.
- 88% of south central Kansans are buckling up compared to 92% statewide.
- 18,221 vehicle crashes (annual average from 2014-2018); 29% of the statewide average.
- 102 fatalities (annual average from 2014-2018); 28% of the statewide average.
- 4,511 injuries (annual average from 2014-2018); 34% of the statewide average.

**CONNECTING TO EDUCATION**

- 446 K-12 schools in the region
- 56% K-12 students transported by bus
- 38% of the K-12 students
- 2 technical college in the region
- 41,564 community college students
- 7,298 technical college students

**MOVING FREIGHT IN KANSAS**

- **Type of Freight Being Transported:**
  - Farm products, such as corn, soybeans, wheat and cattle
  - Consumer goods (non-food)
  - Shipping Containers
  - Petroleum/Coal
  - Chemicals
  - Coal
  - Oil/Natural Gas
  - Other Hazardous Materials
  - Wind Energy Components
  - Construction Equipment
  - Metal and Plastics

**SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS**

**ROADS & BRIDGES**

- 1,991 state highway system miles (19% of the statewide miles)
- 11.6M daily vehicle miles of travel (23% of statewide); 16% of the miles are trucks
- 1,354 2-lane miles (18% of statewide) 44-lane miles (24% of statewide)
- 97 miles of Kansas Tumpike Authority Roads (41% of the KTA system)
- 14% of roadways don’t have shoulders as wide as KDOT would like (compared to 10% statewide)
- Average pavement smoothness rating stayed consistent over last three years.
- 29,033 local (non-state) road miles (22% of local road miles statewide)
- 1,321 state bridges – 20% in fair/poor condition (compared to 22% statewide)
- 5,075 local bridges – 53% in fair/poor condition (compared to 53% statewide)

**RAIL**

- Railroads in south central Kansas are important connectors for shipping both raw materials and finished goods.
- 1,065 miles of track in this region, about 25% of the total of Kansas track miles.
- All counties in south central Kansas have freight rail service, either Class I (557 miles, about 20% of the state total) or short line service (508 miles, about 14% of the state total).
- There are 2 passenger rail stations in this district – Hutchinson and Newton.

**TRANSIT**

- While all 18 counties in this district have some type of transit service, not all counties are covered by an all-encompassing general public transportation that can serve the needs of all demographics. Insufficient geographic coverage was noted as a high priority in the recently completed Regional Coordinated Transit Plans.
- This district has multiple hubs providing medical and social services, such as Great Bend, Hutchinson and Wichita. Transit connections from the outlying rural areas and rural communities to these hubs are vital for Kanas’ ability to age in place.
- Nearly half of the state’s trips provided for rural elderly and disabled users are in this district. This elevates the need for continued and expanded ADA transit services.
- About 5% of households in this region and 5% of households in Kansas do not have access to a vehicle. About 29% of households in this region and 30% of households in Kansas have access to only 1 vehicle.

**CONNECTING TO EMPLOYMENT**

- 75% of workers are working in their county of residence (compared to 76% statewide)
- 18 minutes mean travel time to work (compared to 19 minutes statewide)
- 81% of workers driving alone to work (compared to 82% statewide)
- 2.5% unemployment rate in September 2019 (compared to 5.2% statewide)

**AVIATION**

- In south central Kansas, 5 airports have runways considered long enough to attract new jobs/businesses, just under the statewide average of 7 per region.
- There are 12 airports capable of immediate all-weather access to health care in south central Kansas, over the statewide average of 7 per region.
- About 41% of airport construction needs are currently funded in this region, over the statewide average of 20% of funded needs.

**BIKE/PEDESTRIAN**

- 13 of the 18 counties in this district have received funding through the Transportation Alternative program, which includes funding for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

**MOVING TECHNOLOGY**

- According to the Federal Communications Commission, an average of 69% of the population in this region is covered by broadband (91.1% statewide) and an average of about 100% is covered by cell service (100% statewide). However, residents, businesses and local government officials report ongoing concerns about accessibility as well as affordability of these services.

**MOVING PEOPLE, FREIGHT & TECHNOLOGY**

- Investments would better support industries, especially those in the region’s top growing occupations?
- How can transportation investments support attracting other occupations?

**HOW TO APPLY**

- There’s growing interest in bicycle and pedestrian projects across Kansas. What should KDOT know about needs in south central Kansas in the next 10 years? 25 years?