



Bureau of Public Involvement  
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## NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KDOT Submits Third Passenger Rail Grant Application**

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has submitted a final grant application totaling \$10 million to the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) for funding under the High Speed/Intercity Passenger Rail program using funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The grant would be used to fund signal and crossing upgrades along the BNSF Railway tracks between Newton and the Kansas/Oklahoma state line. The upgrades will be needed for potential passenger rail service between Oklahoma City and Kansas City. The FRA has not set a date for announcing awards.

This is the third grant application KDOT submitted to support passenger rail in Kansas. The first application was for \$7.6 million for track improvements on the Southwest Chief route between Emporia and Barclay using ARRA funds. The improvements will permit the Southwest Chief to increase its average operating speed in that section.

The second application was for a \$500,000 project to prepare a Service Development Plan for potential intercity passenger rail service between Kansas City, Oklahoma City and Fort Worth. This grant would not use ARRA funds and requires a 50 percent state match. KDOT committed \$250,000 toward the total project cost, of which the Oklahoma Department of Transportation committed up to \$125,000. A Service Development Plan is a detailed, comprehensive business and operations plan for implementing passenger rail service. The Plan will be required for applicants to receive potential future federal funding for capital to implement passenger rail service.

The final applications are available on the KDOT Passenger Rail website at [www.ksdot.org/passrail](http://www.ksdot.org/passrail).

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NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.