

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation news release

June 21, 2010

10-058

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Recovery Act jobs, economic output increasing

The number of Kansans working on transportation projects has shown a significant increase as projects ramp up thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The number of recovery act jobs in Kansas rose to 3,375 in May – a 13 percent increase from April and a 47 percent increase since the start of the construction season in March. Payroll for those workers rose to \$4.4 million in May, up from \$3 million in April.

“The Recovery Act is doing exactly what it was supposed to do – put people to work and improve the state’s transportation infrastructure,” said Kansas Transportation Secretary Deb Miller. “It will also help enhance safety and support long-term job growth.”

The Recovery Act was signed into law on Feb. 17, 2009 and Kansas received \$378 million in funding. The state will spend approximately \$348 million in Recovery Act funds for highway and bridge improvements and another \$30 million for transit.

Five major projects were selected to receive funding and all those projects are currently under construction. They include:

- The four-lane expansion of K-61 in McPherson County.
- Widening of U.S. 69 in Overland Park and reconstruction of interchanges at 95th and 103rd Streets.
- The first phase of K-18 freeway construction between Ogden and Manhattan.
- Reconstruction and upgrading of the I-135 and 47th Street interchange in Wichita.
- Improvements to 16 miles of the K-23 corridor in Gove County.

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700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.