

# K-TRAN

## KANSAS TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND NEW - DEVELOPMENTS PROGRAM

The K-TRAN Program is an ongoing, cooperative and comprehensive research program addressing transportation needs of the State of Kansas utilizing academic and research resources from the Kansas Department of Transportation, Kansas State University and the University of Kansas. Projects included in the annual research program are jointly developed by professionals at KDOT, KSU and KU.

Major benefits of the program include development of a flow of high quality transportation research targeted to Kansas transportation needs; financial support to engineering students contributing to the pool of transportation professionals in Kansas; continuing education opportunities for KDOT personnel; enhanced quality of faculty, staff and graduates in the transportation area; attracted federal research resources for use in Kansas; and a much expanded but efficiently organized transportation research resource in Kansas.

Electronic full text copies of completed K-TRAN research reports and summaries may be located on the [KDOT Research Reports Catalog](#) web site.

Information about active K-TRAN projects may be found on TRB's Research in Progress website: <https://rip.trb.org/>

Contacts for more information:

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Lisa Harris, University of Kansas (785-864-2590), [lharris@ku.edu](mailto:lharris@ku.edu)

As of October 2017

## K-TRAN ANNUAL SOLICITATION GUIDELINES

Research project statements that are submitted by annual deadline will be evaluated by K-TRAN Area Panels, and prioritized by the Research Technical Committee. The Research Program Council approves an annual program using input from the Research Technical Committee and Area Panels. The seven Area Panels that have been organized for the review and development of research ideas are:

- Planning, Administration and Computing
- Operations: Pavements, Materials, Construction and Maintenance
- Geometric Design, Drainage and Environmental
- Structural & Geotechnical
- Traffic Operations; Driver and Pedestrian Safety
- Multimodal: Rail, Aviation, Public Transit and Freight
- Local Government

Research Needs Day is held in August in Topeka to discuss research needs developed from the annual idea solicitation and other topics of interest to both the Area Panel members and faculty attending. This is an opportunity for faculty attending to discuss potential research topics they have and get feedback prior to preparing their research project statements (pre-proposals).

**Submit one copy of all research project statements using the following format before October 31<sup>st</sup>, each year to your University K-TRAN Technical Committee Coordinating Group Representative:**

University of Kansas  
Lisa Harris  
KU Transportation Center  
1536 West 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lawrence, KS 66045  
[lharris@ku.edu](mailto:lharris@ku.edu)

Kansas State University  
Sunanda Dissanayake, Ph.D.  
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2118 Fiedler Hall  
Manhattan, Kansas 66506  
[sunanda@ksu.edu](mailto:sunanda@ksu.edu)

**The Universities will number the original research project statements and electronically submit them to KDOT by November 7<sup>th</sup> each year.**

## FORMAT FOR RESEARCH PROJECT STATEMENTS

Submit one copy of research project statements (pre-proposals) with no more than two, single-spaced pages containing following information to your University K-TRAN representative (Sunanda Dissanayake, KSU, or Lisa Harris, KU):

- I. RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE
- II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT
- III. RESEARCH PROPOSED OR RESEARCH OBJECTIVES  
Include tasks to be performed
- IV. ESTIMATE OF FUNDING AND RESEARCH PERIOD  
Inclusive of indirect costs, if appropriate  
Use budget sheet provided by KDOT to Universities  
Include the anticipated period of performance
- V. URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL  
Include expected benefits expressed in dollars saved if results expected are obtained and implemented
- VI. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
- VII. PROJECT PERSONNEL  
Faculty and students who might be involved with the project
- VIII. SUBMISSION INFORMATION  
Date  
Name and Title  
University address  
University telephone and Fax number  
E-mail address

**Use Standard English units in all research project statements, interim reports and final reports. Prepare the final report in Microsoft Word and submit file via email, ftp or CD.**

## GUIDELINES FOR EVALUATING RESEARCH IDEAS

Guidelines have been developed to assist the Research Technical Committee in formulating and recommending research projects for inclusion in the K-TRAN Program. These guidelines will be used in the review of research ideas for development into complete proposals for further consideration.

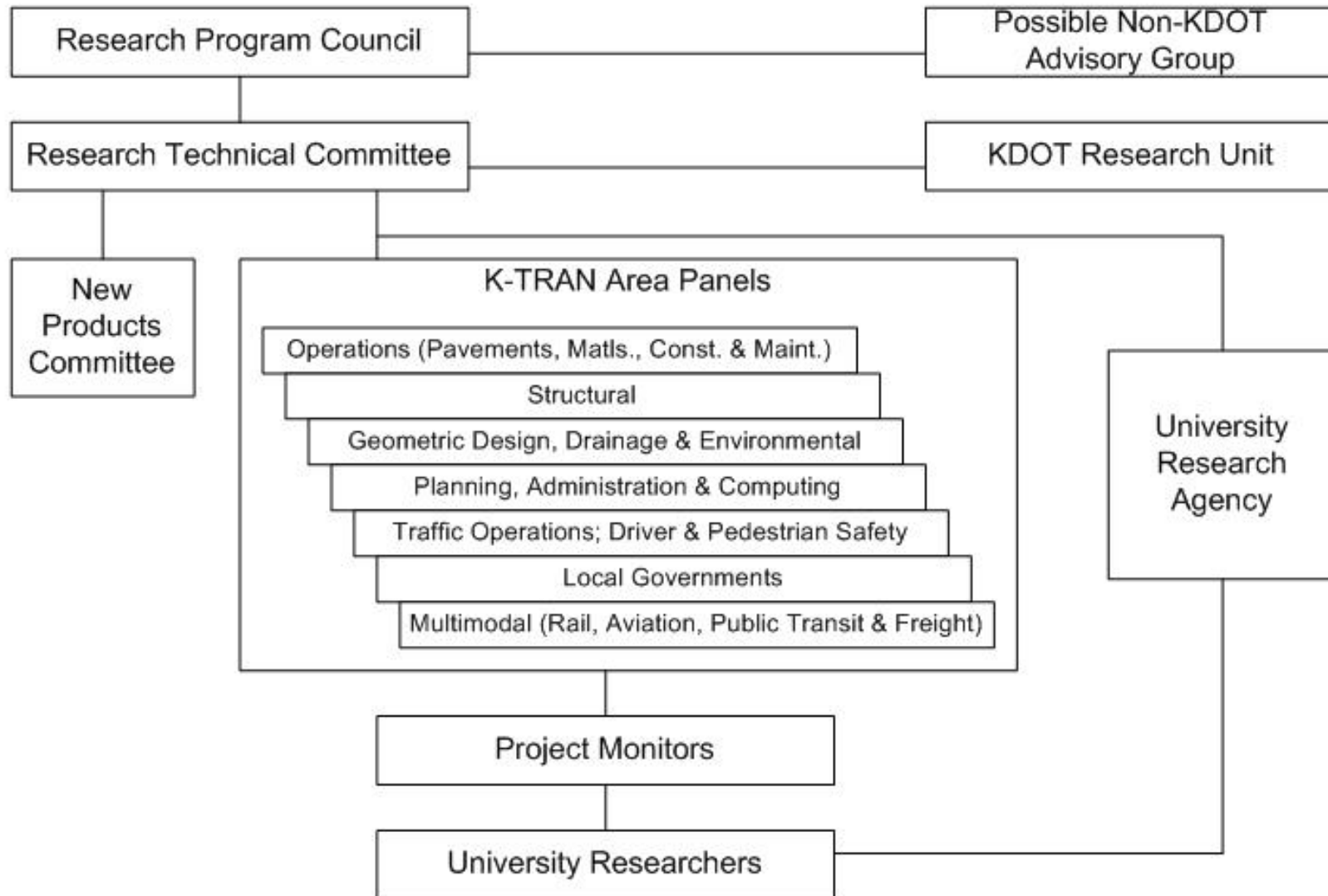
- Relevance to critical research needs of KDOT
- Projects with a high payoff potential described in dollars that can be saved if the research results envisioned result and are implemented.
- Relevance of proposed research idea to the theme of K-TRAN
- Amount of overlap of the proposed research idea with other programs or completed research idea with other programs of completed research (Proposed research should not be targeted for research topics or issues currently underway through the National Cooperative Highway Research Program or the Local Technology Assistance Program.)
- Duration of proposed research project. Project statements should be prepared with the most cost-effective duration considering the required workload, typical length of graduate study programs and other factors. The correct length of time shown should result in the project being completed without any cost extensions.
- Extent to which minorities and handicapped persons are involved in the research, either as participants, recipients or beneficiaries.

## K-TRAN ANNUAL TIMELINE GUIDELINE

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date*</u>
Solicit research ideas from KDOT staff, local government staff, Kansas Turnpike Authority, University faculty and Industry associations.	June 1
Research ideas due to Bureau of Research	Aug. 1
All K-TRAN research project contracts signed	Aug. 1
Send KDOT Research Needs to University	Aug 7
Host <u>Research Needs Day</u> for University and KDOT staff	Aug. 25
Research Program Council meets to review ideas, program status & set policy	Sept. 15
Request for K-TRAN research project statements from KU & KSU	Oct. 1
K-TRAN research project statements due (aka. RPS/Preproposals)	Oct.31
Assistant Bureau Chief of Research assigns RPS to area panels	Nov.15
Area panel evaluations completed	Dec. 31
Research Technical Committee prioritizes RPS into a “candidate project list”	Jan. 15
Research Program Council meets to approve K-TRAN program and budget	Feb. 15
Assist. Bureau Chief of Research assigns new K-TRAN projects to area panels	Mar. 1
Area Panel Leaders assign Project Monitors (submit names to ABC, Research)	Mar. 15
Assist. Bureau Chief of Research provides project related information to all University and KDOT staff involved in new projects	Apr. 1
Assist. Bureau Chief of Research provides orientation and training to Project Monitors	Apr. 1
For early start projects (before July 1), contracts prepared and signed	May 1
For projects starting July 1, detailed proposals are prepared for each project by Principal Investigator and approve by Project Monitor	June 1

\*approximate dates

# KDOT Research Organization



## Research Technical Committee

### **At Large Members:**

*Chair:* Dave Meggers (785-291-3845) [Dave.Meggers@ks.gov](mailto:Dave.Meggers@ks.gov)

*Secretary:* Susan Barker (785-291-3847) [Susan.Barker@ks.gov](mailto:Susan.Barker@ks.gov)

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Jeff Neal (785-296-3727) [Jeff.Neal@ks.gov](mailto:Jeff.Neal@ks.gov)

### **Area Panel Leaders:**

*Planning, Administration and Computing:* Mike Moriarty, Chief, Bureau of Transportation Planning (785-296-3841), [Michael.Moriarty@ks.gov](mailto:Michael.Moriarty@ks.gov)

*Operations: Pavements, Materials, Construction and Maintenance:* Rick Kreider, Chief, Bureau of Research (785-296-1195) [Richard.Kreider@ks.gov](mailto:Richard.Kreider@ks.gov)

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*Structural & Geotechnical:* Mark Hoppe, Chief, Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services (785-296-3531) [Mark.Hoppe@ks.gov](mailto:Mark.Hoppe@ks.gov)

*Traffic Operations; Driver and Pedestrian Safety:* Mike Floberg, Chief, Bureau of Transportation Safety and Technology (785-296-3618) [Michael.Floberg@ks.gov](mailto:Michael.Floberg@ks.gov)

*Multimodal: Rail, Aviation, Public Transit and Freight:* Davonna Moore, Bureau of Transportation Planning (785-296-0346) [Davonna.Moore@ks.gov](mailto:Davonna.Moore@ks.gov)

*Local Government:* Michael Stringer, Chief, Bureau of Local Projects (785-296-3861) [Michael.Stringer@ks.gov](mailto:Michael.Stringer@ks.gov)

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Mustaque Hossain (785-532-1576), [mustak@ksu.edu](mailto:mustak@ksu.edu)

### **FHWA Representative:**

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## K-TRAN Area Panel Members

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