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 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; attracting federal research resources for use in Kansas; and an 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:

Dan Wadley, P.E., Bureau Chief, Bureau of Research, and Chairman of the K-TRAN Research Technical Committee (785-291-3845) Fax: (785-296-2526), Dan.Wadley@ks.gov

KSU: Christopher Jones, Ph.D., Kansas State University (785-532-1578), jonesca@ksu.edu

KU: Lisa Koch, University of Kansas (785-864-4578), kolisach@ku.edu
K-TRAN ANNUAL SOLICITATION GUIDELINES

Annual solicitation for research ideas is distributed in early June. 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 nine Area Panels that have been organized for the review and development of research ideas are:

- Planning (Rail, Freight, Public Transit, Pedestrian & Bicycle)
- Local Governments
- Geometric Design, Drainage, and Environmental
- Structures & Geotechnical
- Traffic Design (Engineering, Signing, and Traffic Control)
- Transportation Safety (Traffic Safety, Crash Data, Operations Safety)
- Innovative Technologies, Information Technology, Computing, and Aviation
- Project Delivery (Construction Contracts & Materials)
- Field Operations (Field Construction & Maintenance)

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 university faculty 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 31st each year to your University K-TRAN Technical Committee Coordinating Group Representative:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University of Kansas</th>
<th>Kansas State University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Koch</td>
<td>Christopher Jones, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KU Transportation Center</td>
<td>Dept. of Civil Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1536 West 15th Street</td>
<td>2118 Fiedler Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence, KS 66045</td>
<td>Manhattan, Kansas 66506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:kolisach@ku.edu">kolisach@ku.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jonesca@ksu.edu">jonesca@ksu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Universities will number the original research project statements and electronically submit them to KDOT by November 7th 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 the following information to your University K-TRAN representative (Christopher Jones, KSU, or Lisa Koch, KU):

I. RESEARCH PROJECT TITLE
II. RESEARCH PROBLEM STATEMENT
III. PROJECT BUDGET
IV. PROJECT DURATION
V. KDOT CHAMPION
VI. PROJECT PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(S)
VII. RESEARCH PROPOSED OR RESEARCH PROBLEM OBJECTIVE(S)
VIII. LEVEL OF URGENCY AND PAYOFF POTENTIAL
      Include expected benefits expressed in dollars saved if results expected are obtained and implemented
IX IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY
X SUBMISSION INFORMATION
   Name of submitter
   Date of submission
   Organization
   Phone number
   Address
   Email 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 or using KDOT's FTP site.
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 as envisioned are realized and are implemented.
- Amount of overlap of the proposed research idea with other programs or 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 Technical 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Solicit research ideas from KDOT staff, local government staff, Kansas Turnpike Authority, University faculty and Industry associations</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research ideas due to Bureau of Research</td>
<td>July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send KDOT Research Needs to University</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All K-TRAN research project contracts signed</td>
<td>Aug. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Host <em>Research Needs Day</em> for University and KDOT staff</td>
<td>Aug. 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Program Council meets to review ideas, program status &amp; set policy</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request for K-TRAN research project statements from KU &amp; KSU</td>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-TRAN Research Project Pre-proposals Due</td>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC &amp; ABC of Research assign Pre-proposals to Area Panels</td>
<td>Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area panel evaluations completed</td>
<td>Dec. 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Technical Committee meets to prioritize Pre-proposals</td>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Program Council meets to approve K-TRAN program and budget</td>
<td>Feb. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Bureau Chief of Research assigns new K-TRAN projects to APL’s</td>
<td>Mar. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Panel Leaders assign Project Monitors (submit names to ABC, Research)</td>
<td>Mar. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asst. Bureau Chief of Research provides project related information to all University and KDOT staff involved in new projects</td>
<td>Apr. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research hosts Project Monitor Training Day to provide orientation to new Project Monitors</td>
<td>Apr. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For early start projects (before July 1), contracts prepared and signed</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For projects starting July 1, detailed proposals are prepared for each project by Principal Investigator and approved by Project Monitor</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*approximate dates
KDOT Research Organization

Research Program Council

Research Technical Committee

KDOT Bureau of Research

New Products Committee

K-TRAN Area Panels
- Planning
- Project Delivery
- Field Operations
- Geometric Design, Drainage, Environmental
- Structural & Geotechnical
- Traffic Design
- Local Governments
- Transportation Safety
- Innovative Technology, IT, Computing, Aviation

Project Monitors

University Researchers

University Research Agency
Research Technical Committee

**At Large Members:**

*Chair:* Dan Wadley (785-291-3845), dan.wadley@ks.gov  
*Secretary:* David Behzadpour (785-291-3847), David.Behzadpour@ks.gov  
Greg Schieber, Director, Division of Project Delivery (785-291-3856), Greg.Schieber@ks.gov  
Shawn Brown (785-296-1382), Shawn.Brown@ks.gov

**Area Panel Leaders:**

*Planning (Rail, Freight, Public Transit, Pedestrian & Bicycle):* Mike Moriarty, Chief, Bureau of Transportation Planning (785-296-3841), Michael.Moriarty@ks.gov  
*Project Delivery:* Greg Schieber, Director, Division of Project Delivery (785-291-3856), Greg.Schieber@ks.gov  
*Field Operations (Field Construction & Maintenance):* Clay Adams, Director, Division of Field Operations (785-296-2235) Clay.Adams@ks.gov  
*Geometric Design, Drainage and Environmental:* Scott King, Bureau of Road Design (785-296-3901), Scott.King@ks.gov  
*Structures & Geotechnical:* Bob Henthorne, Chief, Bureau of Structures and Geotechnical Services (785-296-4253), Bob.Henthorne@ks.gov  
*Traffic Design (Engineering, Signing, and Traffic Control):* Brian Gower, Chief, Bureau of Traffic Engineering (785-296-7431), Brian.Gower@ks.gov  
*Local Government:* Tod Salfrank, Chief, Bureau of Local Projects (785-368-7396), Tod.Salfrank@ks.gov  
*Transportation Safety (Traffic Safety, Crash Data, Operations Safety):* Vanessa Spartan, Chief, Bureau of Transportation Safety (785-296-8463), Vanessa.Spartan@ks.gov  
*Innovative Technologies, Information Technology, Computing, and Aviation:* Mike Floberg, Director, Division of Innovative Technologies (785-291-3553), Mike.Floberg@ks.gov

**University of Kansas Designees:**

David Darwin (785-864-3827), daved@ku.edu  
Lisa Koch (785-864-4578), kolisach@ku.edu

**Kansas State University Designees:**

Christopher Jones (785-532-1578), jonesca@ksu.edu  
Mustaque Hossain (785-532-1576), mustak@ksu.edu

**FHWA Representative:**

Rick Backlund, richard.backland@dot.gov
K-TRAN Area Panel Members

Planning (Rail, Freight, Public Transit, Pedestrian and Bicycle):
KDOT: Mike Moriarty (785-296-8864), Michael.Moriarty@ks.gov
FHWA: Cecelie Cochran (785-273-2636), Cecelie.Cochran@dot.gov
KSU: Eric Fitzsimmons (785-532-0889), fitzsimmons@ksu.edu
KU: Lisa Koch, University of Kansas (785-864-4578), kolisach@ku.edu

Project Delivery:
KDOT: Greg Schieber (785-296-3856), Greg.Schieber@ks.gov
FHWA: Catherine Patrick (785-273-2653), Catherine.Patrick@dot.gov
KSU: Christopher Jones (785-532-1578), jonesca@ksu.edu
KU: Robert Parsons (785-864-2946), rparsons@ku.edu

Field Operations: Field Construction & Maintenance
KDOT: Clay Adams (785-296-2235), Clay.Adams@ks.gov
FHWA: David Do (785-273-2648), David.Do@dot.gov
KSU: Christopher Jones (785-532-1578), jonesca@ksu.edu
KU: Robert Parsons (785-864-2946), rparsons@ku.edu

Geometric Design, Drainage and Environmental:
KDOT: Scott King (785-296-3901), Scott.King@ks.gov
FHWA: Javier Ahumada (785-273-2649), Javier.Ahumada@dot.gov
KSU: Landon Marston (785-532-1690), Itmarston@ksu.edu
KU: Dennis Lane (785-864-2942), lane@ku.edu

Structural & Geotechnical:
KDOT: Bob Henthorne (785-296-4253), Bob.Henthorne@ks.gov
FHWA: Steven Toillion (785-273-2614), steven.toillion@dot.gov
KSU: Hayder Rasheed (Structural) (785-532-1589), hayder@ksu.edu
KU: Caroline Bennett (Structural) (785-864-3235), crb@ku.edu
KU: Jie Han (Geotechnical) (785-864-3714), jiehan@ku.edu
Traffic Design: Engineering, Signing, and Traffic Control:
KDOT: Brian Gower (785-296-3618), Brian.Gower@ks.gov
FHWA: David LaRoche (785-273-2647), david.laroche@dot.gov
KSU: Husain Aziz (785-532-5862), azizhusain@ksu.edu
KU: Steven Schrock (785-864-3418), schrock@ku.edu

Local Government:
KDOT: Tod Salfrank (785-368-7396), Tod.Salfrank@ks.gov
FHWA: David Do (785-273-2648), David.Do@dot.gov
KSU: Eric Fitzsimmons (785-532-0889), fitzsimmons@ksu.edu
KU: Lisa Koch, University of Kansas (785-864-4578), kolisach@ku.edu

Transportation Safety: Traffic Safety, Crash Data, Operations Safety
KDOT: Vanessa Spartan (785-296-8463), Vanessa.Spartan@ks.gov
FHWA: David LaRoche (785-273-2647), david.laroche@dot.gov
KU: Steven Schrock (785-864-3418), schrock@ku.edu
KSU: Husain Aziz (785-532-5862), azizhusain@ksu.edu