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Governor Kelly congratulates Shawnee County for receiving \$168,000 in federal safety grants

TOPEKA – Governor Laura Kelly announced Shawnee County has been awarded \$168,000 in federal funding in the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) grant program. The funds will be used to help improve safety and prevent deaths and serious injuries on local roadways.

Shawnee County is among seven Kansas communities receiving a combined total of \$1.47 million in funding through the SS4A program.

“The awarded Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning Grant is another step towards enabling Shawnee County to apply for Implementation Grants through the SS4A program,” said Curt Niehaus, Shawnee County Public Works Director. “These Implementation Grants will allow Shawnee County to address specific transportation related safety issues.”

State funding provided by a Kansas SS4A Match Pilot Program will contribute 10% of Shawnee County’s local match as required of grant recipients.

“No one can better pinpoint a community’s safety needs than the people who live and work there,” said Governor Kelly. “I commend these local governments for leveraging federal and state funding to create safety plans for their city streets and county roads.”

Administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Safe Streets and Roads for All is a five-year, \$5 billion competitive grant program funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. SS4A projects stress responsible driving, safer roadway designs, appropriate speed limit setting and improved post-crash care. Nationwide for this fall 2023 funding announcement, the \$82 million in SS4A grants is being directed to 235 regional, local and Tribal communities.

“Local commitment and regional collaboration were instrumental in bringing Safe Streets and Roads for All funds to Kansas,” said KDOT Secretary Calvin Reed. “KDOT’s help

with local matching funds is indicative of the importance the agency places of safety and our long-term goal of reaching zero roadway fatalities.”

The SS4A program is structured so the federal government covers 80% of the planning and demonstration grant costs, and the local government covers 20%. The Kansas Department of Transportation agreed to cover some or all of the local match to encourage participation. To have the full 20% covered by KDOT, agencies had to represent a rural area of the state.

Other Kansas communities receiving SS4A grants include Chautauqua County and the cities of El Dorado, Eureka, Hutchinson, Newton and Russell. The USDOT expects to announce additional FY23 awards in December.

Below is an overview of the fall 2023 awarded projects in Kansas from the SS4A program:

Grant Awardee	Award Amount	% Match from KDOT
Chautauqua County*	\$360,000	20%
City of El Dorado	\$160,000	15%
City of Eureka	\$140,000	15%
City of Hutchinson	\$160,000	10%
City of Newton*	\$320,000	15%
City of Russell	\$160,000	15%
Shawnee County	\$168,000	10%
Kansas Total	\$1,468,000	

* Indicates awardee was the lead applicant for a multijurisdictional application.

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