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GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY

**Governor Laura Kelly Congratulates Barton County for Receiving \$600,000
in Cost Share Funds**

~Barton County and Great Bend receive funds for resurfacing on Airport Road~

GREAT BEND – Today, Governor Laura Kelly congratulated Barton County for receiving \$600,000 in Cost Share funds as administered through the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). The SW 40 Avenue (Airport Road) Resurfacing Project will resurface a portion of SW 40 Avenue in Barton County, beginning at the U.S. 56 intersection and continuing north two miles to the intersection with West Barton County Road.

“Congratulations to Barton County for receiving \$600,000 in the latest round of Cost Share funding,” **said Governor Laura Kelly**. “By working with our local partners to invest in our communities, our Cost Share program is improving road safety, mobility, and helping recruit new families and businesses to our state. This project is proof that when we work together to make smart investments in our foundation, all Kansans see results.”

A component of the Kelly Administration’s 10-year, bipartisan Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program, or IKE, the Cost Share program is designed to help rural and urban areas advance transportation projects to improve safety, support job retention and growth, relieve congestion, and improve access and mobility. Barton County was among 20 transportation construction projects selected for the Fall 2021 Cost Share recipients.

Barry McManaman, Barton County Engineer, said Airport Road is the primary connection to the Great Bend Airport and Industrial Park and the Great Bend Transload Facility. He said the road has deteriorated in part due to the increase in heavy-load traffic and the use of the site to store wind tower components.

“The Cost Share project will help tremendously in getting the road back in shape,” **McManaman said**.

The application was towards \$800,000 in total construction costs. The local share of \$200,000 will be split between Barton County and the City of Great Bend. The project is expected to be completed in 2022.

“County and City leaders are no doubt happy KDOT was kind enough to give our project the consideration we feel it deserves, and to approve us for the award,” **said McManaman**. “We would not have been able to afford the scope of work the Cost Share project award will allow us to construct.”

This is the second Cost Share project for Barton County. Recently completed was a Cost Share project to reconstruct an intersection on K-4 at Redwing.

Demand is high for Cost Share transportation dollars. **Michelle Needham**, Economic Development Programs Manager for KDOT, said 84 communities requested more than \$54.5 million in funding for this, the fifth round of the Cost Share program.

“KDOT was impressed with how this round of Cost Share projects hit markers for economic development, safety and community support,” **said Needham**. “KDOT and our Cost Share partners are working collaboratively to expedite delivery on selected projects.”

KDOT is investing \$9.4 million in this cycle of Cost Share, leveraging more than \$5.3 million in community matching dollars, a total of \$14.8 million in funding through state and local partnerships. Over the initial five rounds of Cost Share, more than 100 projects have received more than \$96 million in state funding.

The entire list of Fall 2021 Cost Share projects and other information are available [HERE](#).

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