

Translines EXPRESS

Oct. 15, 2014

Local Bridge Improvement Program

Local bridge improvement program: Seventy-five counties and two cities that will receive a combined total of more than \$10 million in state funding under the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program have been selected. The recipients of the local bridge projects were announced by Secretary Mike King Tuesday in Hays.

KDOT is providing funding to improve, replace or rehabilitate locally-owned, deficient bridges in order to improve the overall transportation system in Kansas. This bridge program targets bridges with a daily vehicle count of less than 100 and a length of 20 to 50 feet.

"This program proved to be extremely popular," Secretary King said. "Every local community that applied for funding and was qualified is receiving funding.

"These bridges might have low traffic numbers but they are important to the farmers that use them to get their equipment to fields and crops to market."

There are about 20,000 bridges on Kansas' local road systems and about 18 percent are structurally deficient. Of those, about 1,800 to 1,900 bridges fall within the target range for length and traffic. To see the counties and cities receiving funding, click <http://goo.gl/CMcxVW>.



Deputy Agriculture Secretary Chad Bontrager praises the Local Bridge Improvement Program's impact on agriculture at Tuesday's announcement in Hays.

Local Consult



Above, Mike Moriarty leads a group discussion at the Local Consult meeting in Topeka on Oct. 7. Above right, a large crowd attends the Hays meeting on Tuesday. Right, attendees write down transportation priorities at the Local Consult meeting in Chanute on Oct. 6. The final Local Consult meeting is today in Salina.



Trivia!

President Dwight D. Eisenhower –

1. What sport did Eisenhower excel at while at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York?
2. The 1919 Motor Transport Corps convoy that Eisenhower participated in from Washington, D.C., to Oakland, Calif., - how many days did it take and what was the average speed?

3. What invasion did Eisenhower lead before the Normandy invasion?
4. Which university did Eisenhower serve as President at for two years?
5. How many states did Eisenhower establish while he was President?

Answers below

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day



Right: Crash survivor Rachel Tharman speaks at the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day news conference at the Capitol on Oct. 10. Left and below: Students participate in the quick click challenge.

Help put the brakes on fatalities:

For the past several years in Kansas, nearly two-thirds of those killed in crashes were not wearing seat belts.

"How many people in those crashes would have lived if they would have been wearing their seat belt? How many families and friends would not have had to suffer such utter devastation?" KDOT Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger asked.

Younger spoke about improving safety as part of the national campaign Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day at a news conference on Oct. 10 at the Capitol.

More than 120 members of Students Against Destructive Decisions from high schools across Kansas, as well as other transportation safety partners and law enforcement officials, attended the event.

Younger was joined by crash survivor Rachel Tharman



and Lawrence Memorial Hospital Trauma Coordinator Kenna Young. Afterwards, students participated in a quick click challenge to show how quickly and easily seat belts can be fastened.

District Four

Long-sought goal:

A six-mile project that will complete the long-sought goal of four-laning U.S. 69 between Kansas City and Pittsburg, known as the "Arma Connection," was announced by Gov. Sam Brownback Oct. 9 in Arma.

"Today we are keeping the promise we made to deliver funding for the 'Arma Connection,'" said Gov. Brownback. "As a result, the decades-old vision of a four-lane U.S. 69 between Kansas City and Pittsburg will finally become reality."

The project, which will be constructed for an estimated \$23.5 million, will tie into two previously-announced projects that will expand nearly 12 miles of the highway in southern Bourbon and northern Crawford counties. All three projects, which will be constructed for a combined cost of \$70.5 million, are part of the T-WORKS transportation



Secretary Mike King answers questions from the media after Gov. Sam Brownback announces a project to complete the four-laning of U.S. 69 from Kansas City to Pittsburg at a news conference on Oct. 9.

program. Long stretches of the highway were expanded from two-to-four lanes under two earlier transportation programs beginning in 1989.

Transportation Planning

Bryant honored: Elaine Bryant, GIS Developer in the Bureau of Transportation Planning, was named the KAM 2014 Prestigious Cartographer/GIS Professional at the Kansas Association of Mappers Conference on Oct. 8 in Manhattan. Bryant is the lead cartographer at KDOT and was nominated for her cartography work on the state official transportation map, the state bike map and other derivative map products, like the state wall maps. She was also nominated for her work on KanPlan as the primary administrator of the site. KanPlan is the new map website containing KDOT GIS layers that will soon replace KGATE. Look for a link to KanPlan under KDOT's GIS/Maps pages at <http://ksdot.maps.arcgis.com/home/>.



Elaine Bryant

In Memory

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree Covert Red Cranwell of Lecompton who died Oct. 12. He retired from the agency's Office of Project Selection in 1986.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Football
2. The convoy took 56 days at an overall average speed of 5 mph.
3. The Allied invasion of North Africa.
4. Columbia University
5. Two – Alaska and Hawaii.

Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of Translines Express? Please e-mail your suggestions to translines@ksdot.org

Online open enrollment for all state employees is taking place until Friday, Oct. 31 - don't miss out!

For more information, go to www.kdheks.gov/hcf/sehp/FSA.htm.

KTA



Choose a tag: Starting Nov. 1, travelers will need only one tag - a K-TAG or a PikePass - to travel on the Kansas Turnpike and all 10 toll roads in Oklahoma. Those with both a K-TAG and a PikePass in the same vehicle will need to remove one tag once interoperability occurs. KTA is asking customers to choose which tag they want to keep by the end of the month. To help make that decision, a new interactive web tool found at myktag.com/interoperability. To further prepare for interoperability with Oklahoma, KTA invited a group of customers, with both a K-TAG and a PikePass, to be part of a test-group by using their PikePass for Kansas travel. This allows for in-lane testing and provides time to make modifications. Stay informed on this partnership by following KTA on Facebook, Twitter (@kansasturnpike) or subscribing to Turnpike Times at <http://bit.ly/1rfclVx>

District One

New signs unveiled: Highway signs were unveiled on Oct. 8 commemorating the correct spelling for the Bourbonnais Creek Bridge on U.S. 24 in Shawnee County at a ceremony in Rossville.

The signs designate the U.S. 24 Bridge over Bourbonnais Creek, two miles east of St. Marys, in Shawnee County with the correct spelling of Bourbonnais. Historically there has been a bridge over the creek with signs identifying it as Bourbonnais Creek, spelled with just one 'n.' The creek is named after a principal member of the Potawatomi tribe, Peter Bourbonnais, who lived on the land before Kansas became a state. The bridge is located near a crossing was located on the Oregon Trail and where Bourbonnais operated a saw mill, it also served as the part of the Military Road between Forts Leavenworth and Riley.

All records showed the creek name as Bourbonnais Creek and could not be changed without a ruling from the U.S. Board of Geographic Names. The necessary paperwork was filled out by District Four



Rep. Jon Boursaw, District Four and Citizen Potawatomi Nation member, left, and Jim Coder, a Bourbonnais descendant, unveil the new correctly-spelled sign.

Rep. Jon Boursaw, to correct the spelling of the with the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, who ruled in favor of the spelling change.

District Six



Eastbound traffic on U.S. 50 can now use the right-turn lane onto Main Street in Ingalls.

A newly-constructed right-turn lane is now open at Ingalls. The turn lane will accommodate eastbound U.S. 50 traffic turning right (south) onto Main Street in Ingalls. A modernization project completed in 2010 added paved shoulders and passing lanes on U.S. 50 from the Finney/Gray County line to Cimarron, along with left turn lanes at Ingalls' Main Street intersection with the highway. The local community subsequently asked KDOT to add right

turn lanes due to concerns about the safety of motorists turning right from the eastbound lane. Following a series of public meetings, District Six staff concluded that a right turn lane was needed and secured funding for the project. Venture Corporation of Great Bend was the prime contractor on the \$320,000 project. Kris Norton's squad and staff in District Six designed the project.

General



KDOT employees were invited to a Cretex Concrete Products Plant tour on Sept. 30 in Bonner Springs. Groups were taken on a walking tour of the plant and watched as pieces were manufactured.



District Four



One of pilots who participated in the week-long Kansas Aviation Expo talks to students from St. Andrews School during an afternoon fly-in at the Independence Airport on Sept. 24. While at Independence, the students and pilots also toured the Cessna Aircraft plant.

TransComm

National awards: KDOT was recognized recently with two national awards from the Skills Contest sponsored by TransComm, AASHTO's Subcommittee on Transportation Communications. KDOT was awarded first place in the Special Events category for public awareness events. The entry highlighted the agency's overall efforts, events and activities to promote National Work Zone Awareness Week in Kansas. The agency also received a second place award for

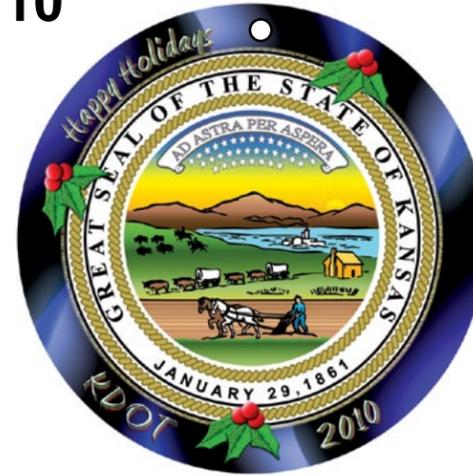
Best Use of Social Media in a Campaign. The entry highlighted KDOT's work to promote National Work Zone Awareness Week through its various social media platforms. The Skills Contest honors the work of public relations groups from DOT's across the country. The TransComm committee provides information throughout the year to DOT's on ways to improve communication and has an annual conference where Skills Contest winners are announced.

General

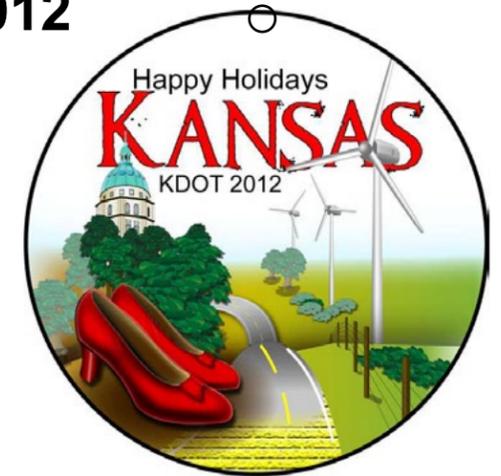
Al Davis, Joyce Poitevint, Matt Stormer, Chris Bortz, Eric Nichol and Mike Floberg enjoy lunch at the United Way and Community Health Charities K-Burger cookout on Oct. 7 in front of the Eisenhower Building.



2010



2012



2013



2014



New!

Employee Council Holiday Ornament Order Form

To order:

Headquarters: Contact your Employees' Council rep.

Districts/Retirees: Mail completed form and check to -

Ruby Hilton, KDOT, 700 SW Harrison
13th Floor/Bridge Design
Topeka, KS, 66603

Ornament	Quantity	Cost Each	Total
2010		\$5.00	
2011	----- SOLD OUT -----		
2012		\$5.00	
2013		\$5.00	
2014		\$5.00	
		Total Paid:	

Please Print -

Name: _____

Address: _____

Retirees only - home address)

Work phone: _____

Checks payable to
Employees' Council

For more details, call
Ruby at (785) 291-3980

Supply is limited on ornaments from previous years - first come, first serve