

June 19, 2008

Dear Transportation Partner:

I am pleased to share with you the final Kansas Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). It is a result of significant input from Kansas stakeholders and citizens, and the strong technical work of the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT). Throughout an 18-month process, more than 120 stakeholders led the way for thinking about transportation in new ways for Kansas. The innovations recommended in this LRTP are a direct result of their participation and on behalf of the state, I thank them.

In reading the LRTP, you may notice that transportation is talked about as a statewide system. In fact, responsibility for transportation decision-making and funding in Kansas is spread among many partners who work alongside KDOT – from local governments and paratransit providers to multi-national, privately owned rail freight operators. My goal is for the LRTP to foster a stronger sense of unity and leadership for transportation in Kansas.

I'd also like to point out that the LRTP does not set out a new transportation funding program for Kansas, nor does it present a list of improvement projects. Instead it documents the state's many transportation needs, examines trends which will impact transportation for the next 20 years, and makes policy recommendations to address those needs and trends. My hope is that the LRTP will be the starting point for dialogue across Kansas about how to fund and invest in transportation in the coming years.

Developing the LRTP was based on a collaborative and inclusive process and has resulted in a vision of transportation that is well supported among many stakeholders. KDOT has already begun to implement several of the recommendations contained in the LRTP, and I encourage you to actively participate in future transportation planning efforts. If you have questions about the Long Range Transportation Plan or its implementation, please contact Kyle Schneweis at 785-296-0293 or Maggie Thompson at 785-296-5613.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deb Miller".

Deb Miller  
Secretary of Transportation

*The Kansas Department of Transportation would like to acknowledge and thank the many people from across the state who participated in the development of the Kansas Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). These individuals put a lot of time, effort and innovation into the development of the plan and their efforts are appreciated.*

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