

March 13, 2009

Dear KDOT Partners:

The Kansas Department of Transportation is soliciting applications from short line railroads and port authorities to use funds made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) for short line railroad projects. KDOT has set aside \$3 million for grants for these projects. The intent of this grant program is to address economic development opportunities throughout Kansas. Funds will be available for construction projects (construction and materials) that provide new or improved service to shippers and improved operating efficiencies to the railroad. Project applications will be evaluated on a variety of criteria including, but not limited to, economic impact and job creation/retention, project purpose, project cost, and completeness of application. Priority will be given to projects that show clear economic development opportunities. While matching funds are not required to qualify for a grant, the ability of applicants to provide matching funds will be taken into consideration during the application process. Because federal ARRA funds will be used, monthly reporting will be required.

To be complete, applications must be signed by a railroad or port authority representative and be **received no later than 5:00 pm on Monday, March 23, 2009** to: John Maddox, Kansas Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Planning, Eisenhower State Office Building – 2nd Floor Tower, 700 SW Harrison, Topeka, KS 66603 or via email to John Maddox at johnm@ksdot.org. **This is a firm deadline, with no exceptions.** Consideration will not be given to any applications received after the deadline. You may complete and submit the enclosed project application or it can be downloaded from our website www.ksdot.org/EconomicStimulus.asp. In addition to the enclosed application you will also find a copy of Federal Aid Project Requirements.

Projects selected for funding will be announced on March 30, 2009. A contract and KDOT oversight during construction will be required for all selected projects. **By applying for these funds, you are certifying that your project can be obligated by December 1, 2009 and can be completed within three years of funds being obligated.** KDOT will likely receive more project requests than it will be able to fund. Thus, if your project is selected and you are unable to meet deadlines and requirements, it is not just a loss of funds for your project, but also a loss for the communities whose projects were not selected but could have been completed with these funds. It is very important that you review all requirements to make certain your project is eligible for these funds.

I am aware of the short time frame associated with this call for applications and want to let you know that I appreciate your efforts in this endeavor. If you need additional information or have questions, please contact me at 785-296-3228, or John Rosacker at 785-296-0342.

Sincerely,

Dennis R. Slimmer, P.E.
Bureau Chief of Transportation Planning

John W. Maddox
Rail Affairs Program Manager

DRS:JWM:ehd
Enclosures

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