OBJECTIVE: Improve rail access for businesses and preserve the condition of the state’s railroad network.

AVAILABLE FUNDING: $5 million annually in a combination of loans and reimbursement grants.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS: Projects that improve the condition or expand the capacity of the state’s railroads and projects that can be used to recruit or expand business in the state by providing better access to the state’s rail network. Typical projects include major rail rehabilitation and construction/expansion projects, such as rail spur, sidings and extensions.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: Local Governments, railroads, port authorities, and shippers.

LOCAL MATCH: Local match will generally be 30%. Other locally proposed match amounts could be considered depending on project specifics.

REQUIREMENTS: If applicant is a local government, shipper or port authority a Memorandum of Understanding with the serving railroad to provide service and car supply is required. Projects must demonstrate a cost-benefit ratio of one or more.

APPROVAL PROCESS: If a project’s approval is critical to recruit a new business to the state, a decision will be made within 45 days. For projects that are not time-sensitive, projects will be pooled and selected annually as funding is available.

HOW TO APPLY: The State Rail Service Improvement Fund is for major rehabilitation and construction/expansion projects. The application is available at www.ksdot.org/tworks/ecodevo/downloads/railapp2013.

If the project directly relates to creating jobs and capital investment, the applicant should submit the Economic Development Program application, available at www.ksdot.org/tworks/ecodevo/downloads/edapp2013.

KDOT FREIGHT AND RAIL CONTACT: Program Manager: John Maddox freightandrail@ksdot.org 785.296.3228