

Translines



**Preservation work
keeping contractors busy**

See page 8

Inside ...

- ◆ **Governor kicks off safety blogs**
- ◆ **Wichita project named one of nation's 10 best**
- ◆ **Kansas airports generate billions**
- ◆ **KDOT sets T-WORKS meetings**
- ◆ **Safety stressed for child passengers**



*By Secretary
Deb Miller*

Chinese transportation discussion sounds familiar

Greenhouse gasses, congestion, the need to reduce vehicle miles traveled, growing maintenance needs, insufficient funding from the central government . . . typical stuff for transportation policy discussions in Washington.

But it wasn't Washington where I most recently heard these topics discussed. It was Beijing, where I was invited to represent the U.S. in a discussion of road construction/maintenance financing. The project to examine financing after fuel tax reform in China was paid for by the Asian Development Bank, which also paid all of my expenses.

I expected to observe a lot of differences between our countries – and there are many. But I was surprised at how similar the Chinese organizational structure for delivering transportation is to the U.S. system. Like ours, the Chinese approach is highly decentralized with the central government responsible for national road network planning, formulation of technical standards and providing guidance and coordination. Provincial governments are responsible for national and provincial road construction and maintenance (sound familiar?). And construction and maintenance of the county and rural roads are the responsibility of the local governments.

During the meeting, which also included representatives from Germany and Japan, the discussion sounded very familiar. The provincial governments were concerned that the central government wasn't providing sufficient resources. They expressed concern that they didn't have the mechanisms needed to raise revenue. And with congestion,

air quality and greenhouse gasses creating a need to reduce vehicle miles traveled, there was concern about what would happen to revenue if VMT were reduced.

But for all the similarities, it was always clear that this was not a U.S. transportation discussion. The Chinese central government has the ability to act quickly and decisively. When fuel prices went up significantly and then dropped (as happened in the U.S.), the central government acted quickly and instituted the fuel tax. Though the provincial governments openly expressed concern about having adequate revenues to meet their needs, I was amazed to think of the central government having authority to abolish provincial fees. And it was done quickly, without a lot of discussion and without a lot of protest from the provincial governments.

I was surprised that the participants from the provincial government spoke as openly about their concerns as they did, but the discussion wasn't at all similar to what I'm used to in the U. S. The dialog (and that's hardly the word that should be used as it seemed more like rehearsed speeches) was very stilted. During the question and answer session, few questions were asked. When my Japanese and German

colleagues and I asked questions, we got long statements but no answers.

While the meetings were a bit stiff, the Chinese were very gracious hosts, obviously proud of their country and eager to show it off. The food was amazing in its quantity, variety and complexity.

Beijing was astounding. Twenty-two million people and skyscrapers as far as one could see; modern and sophisticated mixed with traditional neighborhoods, many that still don't have running water. The traffic

was relentless and terrifying at intersections with a mix of cars, trucks, bikes, electric bikes, scooters and carts.

While China has taken huge steps in recent decades to build up its infrastructure, it has much more to do. Although China (with its huge population) and the U.S. are roughly the same size in area, China has 3.9 million kilometers of public roads compared to eight million in the U.S. The Chinese were eager to hear from me as they see the U.S. model as the best one for them to follow. I'm glad they feel that they can learn from us, but I suspect we can learn a lot from them, too. I intend to follow with interest as the Chinese complete this study and set their transportation funding direction.



Secretary Deb Miller visited the Great Wall of China while in Beijing to discuss financing of road construction and maintenance. Photo by Deb Miller

Mai celebrates 50 years at KDOT

By David Greiser

District Two Public Affairs Manager

What began as a summer job working for KDOT maintenance in Plainville in 1960 turned into a lifetime of service for Gerry Mai. That summer job gave Gerry a view of highway work and he apparently liked what he saw. On Oct. 1, he will reach a 50-year milestone with the agency.

In January 1961, he joined KDOT full time working as an Engineering Aide-1 at the WaKeeney Construction office learning the basics of highway construction. Promotions led him to a position in the Materials Lab at the District office in Norton in 1971.



Gerry Mai

He came to the Salina District Two lab in 1976. In 2006 he was promoted to an Engineering Technician Specialist and a year later he became the Engineering Technician Mentor in north central Kansas, a position he currently holds. As a mentor, Mai provides guidance and leadership to field inspectors throughout the District.

Mai and his wife, Rosemary, of 48 years reside in Salina. They have four children and five grandchildren.



Secretary Deb Miller is interviewed by media after the news conference outlining the economic benefits of airports in Kansas.

Kansas airports generate billions

Airports in Kansas support more than 47,000 jobs, generate \$2.3 billion in payroll and produce \$10.4 billion in economic activity.

Those numbers are among the findings of the Kansas Aviation Economic Impact Study released at an event at Topeka's Philip Billard Airport on Aug. 25. Also announced at the event were 25 grants for improvement projects at Kansas airports.

The study, which was funded by a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration, assessed the impact of the state's eight commercial and 132 general aviation airports. It focused on identifying economic benefits associated with the businesses and tenants that are

located on each of the airports.

"Whether moving goods, providing emergency assistance or connecting our communities, airports play a critical role in the Kansas economy," said Lt. Gov. Troy Findley. "That's why I was glad to see a bipartisan coalition in the Legislature recognize the need to invest in our infrastructure to maintain our airports and create jobs by funding a new transportation plan."

Secretary Deb Miller said the report, which quantifies the impact of airports on communities and the state, will provide important information as decisions are made about where to best invest public and private resources. The full study can be viewed on KTOC. **-S.S.**

See page 11 for related story.



150 years of statehood

At left, David Failor, Executive Director of Stamp Services for the U.S. Postal Service, helps Gov. Mark Parkinson and First Lady Stacy Parkinson unveil the stamp commemorating Kansas' 150th anniversary of statehood. The artwork, by painter Dean Mitchell, was unveiled at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson on Sept. 17. The stamp will be issued in late January to coincide with the state's anniversary on Jan. 29, 2011.

Governor kicks off safety blogs

By Kim Stich

Gov. Mark Parkinson kicked off 20 days of blogging on the Kansas Transportation Online Community (KTOC) website to highlight Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day. The blogging concludes with a blog from U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood.

The blogs encourage increased safety on roadways, will run from Sept. 13 to Oct. 8 leading up to the national safety awareness day, Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day, which is Oct. 10.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day focuses on all types of traffic safety, whether you are in a vehicle, on a bike, on a motorcycle or walking across the street. It is intended to encourage everyone to take extra precautions to stay safe.

“I am proud to kick off the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day Campaign to remind Kansans that safety must be our top priority when getting on the road,” said Gov. Parkinson. “This blog provides viewers a way to share information so we can help reduce roadway fatalities in Kansas, and I encourage everyone to join in on the conversation.”

Anyone can read the blogs, but you must log in and be a member to make comments.

Other bloggers include Secretary Deb Miller, KDOT retiree Larry Emig (Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day founder), Sean Wallace (Arkansas City Police Department), Sandy Horton (Crawford County Sheriff-SAFE program), Shirley McDonald (mother of KDOT employee Scotty McDonald who was killed in a work zone June 1, 2005) and many others.

To read the blogs, go to <http://ktoc.net/news.aspx> and click on the “Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day” logo on the right.



At left is the poster by Youna Song. In the middle is the poster by Corissa Bandel. At the bottom is the poster by Dylan Hollerich.

Kansas kids learn to put the brakes on fatalities

Five-year-old Corissa Bandel of Oskaloosa, 10-year-old Youna Song of Manhattan and 11-year-old Dylan Hollerich of Tipton are the statewide winners for the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest.

The winners will receive a family package at Great Wolf Lodge in Kansas City and a fuel card from QuikTrip Corporation.

Eighteen regional winners of the contest will receive a bicycle donated by Wal-Mart and a helmet donated by Safe

Kids Kansas. The prizes will be presented by KDOT and the Kansas Highway Patrol at assemblies at schools during October.



A total of 766 poster contest entries were received across the state with 18 kids receiving regional and statewide recognition. The contest helps make people of all ages aware of the need to reduce fatalities

on our nation's highways. Numerous transportation organizations across the state sponsor the event.

For more information on Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day, go to the website www.brakesonfatalities.org. - K.S.



Wichita project named one of nation's 10 best

By Steve Swartz

A project that eliminated a 100-year-old traffic problem in downtown Wichita has been named one of America's 10 best transportation projects.

The \$105 million Central Corridor project was named one of the 10 finalists in the 2010 America's Transportation Awards competition. It emerged as a finalist from regional competitions that included 43 projects from 29 states. It is now in the running for two awards: the grand prize to be selected by a panel of judges, and the People's Choice Award, which will be decided by popular vote. Online voting is under way and continues through Oct. 18.



Two miles of railroad track were raised to improve a 100-year-old traffic problem in downtown Wichita. (Photo provided)

VOTE!



Visit the KDOT website,
www.ksdot.org, and vote for
Kansas to win the national
People's Choice Award!

Kansans are encouraged to cast a vote for the project by visiting the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) website at www.americatransportation-award.org.

The project, which began in 2005 and was completed in 2009, raised two miles of railroad track above the roadway, providing five new bridges to carry trains over thoroughfares below. For the first time in a century, street traffic and emergency vehicles can cross beneath the tracks without being stopped by

trains. It also removes a major obstacle to economic development in downtown Wichita.

TranSystems was program manager, overseeing the design and performing the construction inspection activities. The designer-of-record was HNTB and the general construction contractor was Dondlinger & Sons Construction Co. of Wichita. The project was a joint effort of the City of Wichita and KDOT.

America's Transportation Award is sponsored by AASHTO, AAA and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Retirees

The following employees will retire from KDOT in October.

Headquarters

Judith K. Butler, Applications Developer III, Computer Services
Marion E. Johnston, Applications Developer I, Transportation Safety and Technology
Daniel L. LaShelle, Application Developer, Transportation Planning
Alex L. Link, Administrative Assistance, Fiscal Services
Larry L. Pease, Electronics Technologist, Transportation Planning

District One

Richard W. Davis, Highway

Maintenance Supervisor, Osage City
Gerald L. Martin, Engineering Technician, Horton
Gary B. McCamish, Equipment Operator Specialist, Kansas City
Kenneth A. Tinder, Engineering Technician Specialist, Kansas City
Marvin L. White, Engineering Technician, Seneca

District Two

David H. Boyle, Public Service Administrator III, Salina
Jack Davis, Engineering Technician Senior, Salina

District Three

John D. Flanagin, Engineering

Technician, Oakley

District Four

Garrett R. Brandt, Public Service Administrator I, Mound City
Carl J. Maley, Equipment Operator Specialist, Garnett
Williams E. McManis, Highway Maintenance Supervisor, Pittsburg

District Five

Terry L. Atteberry, Public Service Administrator I, Kinsley

The following employee officially retired from KDOT in September.

District One

Kenneth R. Martin, Equipment Operator, Marysville

District News...

Center of construction

The Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge replacement project continues to be the center of attention as a pivotal transportation project for Kansas and Missouri travelers. Now, the center of the bridge, or rather construction for the center pier on the new bridge, is the focal point of this project.

From late spring through mid-August, crews were unable to move into the middle of the river to begin construction because heavy rains caused continued high waters on the Missouri River throughout the summer months. However, that didn't stop crews from continuing work on either side of the bridge project. Though the center pier construction fell behind schedule, construction for the remainder of the bridge is on schedule.

In mid-August, crews began work on the center pier and through the next couple of months, weather permitting, crews are working round the clock, Monday through Saturday. Work also continues on other sections of the bridge project as well.

The bridge replacement is a cooperative project funded by KDOT and the Missouri DOT. It is scheduled to open in late 2011.

District One



The new driving lanes on K-27 in Goodland are nearly ready for traffic.

K-27 work continues

Contractors have finished the southern section of K-27/U.S. 24 Business Highway in Goodland and moved into the final stage in mid-September.

The southern section spans from I-70 north to the Walmart entrance in Goodland, and was partially funded by the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and the city of Goodland. Another portion was submitted as a Geometric Improvement job by the city and approved by KDOT.

Prime contractor Smoky Hill, L.L.C., of Salina, oversaw the \$982,281

project and replaced the deteriorating asphalt with new concrete driving lanes. An asphalt wedge was also placed along the shoulders.

Construction is under way on the final section of K-27/U.S. 24 Business from the Walmart entrance north to the K-27/U.S. 24 intersection in a project funded by the city of Goodland and KDOT. Smoky Hill, L.L.C. will oversee the \$465,553 project.

Limited traffic control will be in place to guide motorists around the third and final section of construction. The final section should be complete, weather permitting, by mid-November.

District Three

I-70 bridge repair

Repair work on the bridge over I-70 at Halstead Road, located one mile west of the I-70/I-235/U.S. 81 interchange, are continuing.

The bridge deck will be patched and the rails replaced followed by a Silica Fume overlay of the bridge deck and the replacement of the bridge approaches. Construction is scheduled to be completed in May 2011, weather permitting. Bridges Inc. of Newton is the prime contractor for this project.

Deck repair work is under way on the bridge over I-70 at Halstead Road.



District News

Continued from page 6

Frisco Trail opens

The City of Parsons celebrated the completion of the Frisco Hike & Bike Trail on Sept. 7 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, balloons, hot dogs – and a bevy of citizens in their walking shoes.

The 10-foot-wide concrete trail was funded by a KDOT Transportation Enhancement grant and a 20 percent match from the city. Benches and trash cans have been placed along the trail, which runs more than one mile from 17th and Morton to 10th and Main.

District Four

Following the old Frisco railroad line, the trail is adjacent to Forest Park, the community center, municipal swimming pool, farmers' market and a couple of softball fields.

Once walkers and bikers reach the trail's end at 10th Street, they are encouraged to continue on 10th to connect with a second hike-bike trail at Tolen Creek Park on the north edge of town.

Beachner Construction of St. Paul was awarded the primary contractor.

K-61 prairie dog relocation takes place

The Prairie Dog Coalition for The Humane Society of the United States had a relocation project to remove prairie dogs from a small portion of the right-of-way from the K-61 four-lane expansion project in Hutchinson, and also from other private property associated with a home improvement store and a car dealership in Hutchinson.

District Five

This project resulted from local public concern about the impact of the highway



Parsons citizens and officials prepare to cut the ribbon dedicating the new Frisco Hike & Bike Trail.

construction on the prairie dog colony.

The prairie dogs were located near the intersection of K-61 and 17th Avenue in Hutchinson, which is the south end of the 23.1-mile K-61 construction project. At least 175 prairie dogs were trapped, taken to the Hutchinson Zoo for a health check and then relocated to a grassland in southern Kansas.

A final process using soap foam was utilized to catch the few remaining prairie dogs after two weeks of trapping. All costs associated with this relocation were provided for by the The Humane Society of the United States.



Prairie dogs were trapped along K-61, then relocated to southern Kansas.

Improving maintenance

Ron Hall, District Maintenance Engineer, traveled to South Dakota for the Maintenance Decision Support System (MDSS) pooled fund study earlier this month. Hall is a member of the Techni-

cal Panel and represents Kansas at these meetings.

The Technical Panel meets three times a year to review progress and provide technical as well as administrative direction for MDSS. The MDSS Pooled Fund Study also focused on full-scale deployment and independent benefit/cost analysis.

District Six

MDSS provides reliable information for DOT's to use while accomplishing winter maintenance goals. Kansas is one of 17 states that conducts field testing with the technology.

The district has six subareas participating in the research. This winter the subareas will enter data directly into the software using radio and wireless communication instead of the in-vehicle modules used previously.

Information for the District news briefs section is provided by the District Public Affairs Managers.



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Secretary of Transportation: Deb Miller Editors: Stan Whitley and Kim Stich

On the... **COVER**
An oversize load travels along U.S. 75 in Lyndon.

Preservation work keeping contractors busy

By Stan Whitley

A recent surge of transportation projects, coming at what normally is the back half of the construction season, is proving a mixed blessing for contractors.

In July, KDOT awarded contracts for 85 construction projects totaling \$67.8 million in one of its largest monthly lettings ever. Another big letting is planned for October estimated at \$86.6 million.

Most of the projects involve system preservation work such as milling and overlay, sealing, crack repair, pavement patching and bridge repairs. These are projects normally awarded in the spring that were delayed due to budget cuts, before passage of the comprehensive transportation program T-WORKS.

That's been good news for contractors specializing in asphalt work, such as Heckert Construction Co, in Pittsburg and Superior-Bowen Asphalt Co., in Kansas City.

"Before the new transportation program we were working fewer hours and no Saturday's," said Pete Kemmeter, an Estimator for Heckert. "We were on a pace to be done by the end of July and would have laid off employees."

Then came the June letting and Heckert was awarded contracts for five projects.

"It couldn't have come at a better time because it will virtually keep us busy for the remainder of the construc-



KDOT crews supply asphalt for contractors on U.S. 40 near the Colorado border on one of the many state preservation projects made possible by T-WORKS funding.

tion season," said Kemmeter. "Four of the projects will be completed in Southeast Kansas and we have permission from KDOT to start a large job in Butler County next spring."

For many, the contracts represented the first significant business this year as the shaky recovery continues to stifle new construction. It meant contractors had to line up suppliers and get their plans in order more quickly than normal.

"The shorter window created a sense of urgency to get all the work done before the weather turns bad for the winter," said Trey Bowen, vice president of Kansas City-based Superior Bowen

Asphalt Co., which received \$3.55 million to preserve six miles of I-435 in Johnson County.

Bowen said the company also recently picked up some jobs from local cities and probably will need to hire 20 to 25 more workers.

But Bowen said he doesn't expect a hard time finding manpower and materials because the scarcity of projects this year hasn't exactly exhausted local supply.

"The bulk of our volume is later in the season but not outside our capacity - that we've shown in the past - to complete," he said.

Kansas Economic Recovery Jobs Report
The three-month numbers at right illustrate jobs thanks to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

| August 2010 | Non-KDOT | KDOT Only | Total |
|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| Employees | 3,684 | 319 | 4,003 |
| Hours | 189,715 | 14,415 | 204,130 |
| Payroll | \$4,889,024 | \$300,560 | \$5,189,58 |
| July 2010 | Non-KDOT | KDOT Only | Total |
| Employees | 4,453 | 353 | 4,806 |
| Hours | 233,088 | 13,615 | 246,703 |
| Payroll | \$6,110,083 | \$210,771 | \$6,320,854 |
| June 2010 | Non-KDOT | KDOT Only | Total |
| Employees | 4,022 | 230 | 4,252 |
| Hours | 172,611 | 2,878 | 175,489 |
| Payroll | \$4,752,537 | \$53,693 | \$4,806,230 |

Practical Improvement



Secretary Deb Miller, center, is joined by other state and local officials as she cuts the ribbon at a ceremony to commemorate the re-opening of K-23 in Gove County on Sept. 3. Using Practical Improvement standards saved an estimated \$11 million on the project.

Calendar of Events

Oct. 8 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Independence, Independence Memorial Hall.

Oct. 20 – 1 p.m. Construction Bid Letting, Fourth Floor, ESOB.

Oct. 22 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Kansas City, National Guard Armory.

Oct. 25 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Abilene Fair Grounds.

Oct. 26 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Hays Ramada Hotel.

Oct. 27 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Liberal, Seward County Event Center.

Oct. 28 – 9 a.m. - Noon T-WORKS local consultation meeting, Ramada Hotel and Convention Center, Hutchinson.

Safety stressed for child passengers

Traffic safety advocates from across Kansas gathered at the official child passenger safety station for Douglas, Jefferson and Leavenworth counties at Lawrence Memorial Hospital on Sept. 17 to highlight the importance of installing and using child safety seats properly.

The safety event was designed to kick off Kansas' observance of the national Child Passenger Safety Week, which ran Sept. 19 through 25.

Amanda Meier of Salina was one of the people at the event and understands how important that is. She had a nationally certified technician inspect the installation of the child safety seats in her SUV. That's why her children are alive today.

Meier's mother is a certified technician, and she had checked and adjusted the child safety seats in Meier's SUV regularly. That vigilance paid off in February, when the vehicle was struck by a speeding motorist who ran a red light while fleeing from police.

The crash impact rolled the vehicle 360 degrees. It landed



Jim Hanni of AAA Kansas discusses the importance of child passenger safety at the event in Lawrence on Sept. 17.

back on its tires, but facing the opposite direction. The force of the impact knocked the shoes off the feet of all three passengers, and the vehicle was totaled.

Neither Meier, nor her 3- and 6-year-old children, suffered so much as a scratch.

Other safety experts at the event stressed the importance of child passenger protection, such as Cherie Sage, State Director of Safe Kids Kansas. Sage said that while surveys show 97 percent of Kansas

families using recommended child safety seats for infants and toddlers in the age group from birth through age 4, the rate drops to an alarming 76 percent for the 5 through 9 age group.

Also on hand was Jim Hanni, Executive Vice President of Public and Government Affairs of AAA Motor Club of Kansas, who presented a \$19,000 donation to the SAFE Program, a special peer-directed seat belt advocacy program for Kansas teens. Jason Hammes, President of the Kansas Motor Carriers Association, donated 105 booster seats to a representative of the Kansas Highway Patrol.

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

Do you know?

**Kansas Fun Facts
Part Two**

- ◆The first black woman to win an Academy Award was Kansan Hattie McDaniel. She won the award for her role in "Gone with the Wind."
- ◆Kansas inventors include Almon Stowger of El Dorado who invented the dial telephone in 1889; William Purvis and Charles Wilson of Goodland who invented the helicopter in 1909; and Omar Knedlik of Coffeyville who invented the first frozen carbonated drink machine in 1961.
- ◆Smith County is the geographical center of the 48 contiguous states.
- ◆Amelia Earhart, first woman granted a pilot's license by the National Aeronautics Associate and first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean was from Atchison.
- ◆Dwight D. Eisenhower from Abilene was the 34th President of the United States.
- ◆Actor Buster Keaton, of early film success, was from Piqua, Kansas.

◆Source: <http://www.50states.com/facts/kansas.htm>



(Left photo) Director of Aviation Ed Young, right, talks with attendees at the T-WORKS workshop in Olathe, while Director of Engineering and Design Dan Scherschligt (bottom photo) answers questions during a session.



KDOT sets T-WORKS meetings

Four T-WORKS workshops laid the groundwork to help communities become organized before a series of regional Local Consultation meetings are held across the state in October.

More than 550 Kansans participated in the discussions at Wichita, Dodge City, Olathe and Pittsburg in addition to a webinar hosted by KDOT. Transportation revenue provided by T-WORKS will fully fund the state's preservation needs along with \$1.7 billion of revenue for highway modernization and expansion programs.

Secretary Deb Miller that the new revenue will fund a host of projects, but based on 2009 Local Consultation meetings, the total cost of candidate projects is nearly triple the amount KDOT has available to spend.

"As we move closer to selecting projects that will be funded under T-WORKS it's critical we continue discussions with Kansas communities and transportation stakehold-

ers," said Secretary Miller. "We need to be smart about the decisions that are made so that we are making targeted, strategic, and impactful investments in our transportation system."

Using information from the workshops, attendees were encouraged to go back to their communities and regions to discuss project options and phasing to take advantage of limited dollars. For example, could there be greater regional benefits associated with building more passing lanes rather than four-lane roadways?

"We're looking forward to hearing feedback on any ideas from community representatives at the Local Consultation meetings," said Secretary Miller.

The first Local Consultation meeting will held Oct. 8 in Independence and the last meeting is scheduled for Oct. 28 in Hutchinson. A full list of the meetings can be found on page 9 under Calendar of Events. – *S.W.*

Airport grants awarded

Twenty-five airport grants totaling \$1.3 million that were announced by Secretary Miller are part of a pilot program connected to the Kansas Airport System Plan completed last year. The plan was undertaken in order to determine where strategic investments are most needed.

“Under the pilot, we asked communities to submit projects that would help plug gaps in the Kansas aviation system that were identified in the strategic plan,” said Secretary Miller.

“It looks like that approach was well-accepted as we received a record 74 applications for projects totaling more than \$16 million.”

The selected projects include a range of improvements such as communications upgrades, runway and taxiway repairs and installation of weather systems. Also funded is an airport feasibility study for the city of Greensburg.

To see the list of projects, go to www.ksdot.org.

See page 3 for related story.

Upcoming KDOT Training Courses

Classes at Headquarters

- ♦ Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Oct 5-7
- ♦ BEST Week 1, Oct. 11-14
- ♦ You'll Catch On, Oct. 19-20
- ♦ Transition to Leadership/Ethics, Oct. 25-27
- ♦ Difficult Conversations, Oct. 26
- ♦ You'll Catch On, Oct. 28-29
- ♦ You'll Catch On, Nov. 2-3
- ♦ New Employee Orientation, Nov. 4
- ♦ ART Day 1, 2, 3, Nov. 8-10
- ♦ BEST Week 2, Nov. 29 - Dec. 2
- ♦ ART Day 1, 2, 3, Jan. 1-20

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Lindsey Douglas, Public Service Executive II, Office of Governmental Affairs

District Four

Kirby Alexander, Public Service Administrator I, Garnett

District Five

Daniel Ochs III, Public Service Administrator II, Hutchinson
Bill Springer, Equipment Operator Specialist, Wichita
The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for promotions/transfers to Translines.

**Welcome
new KDOT
employees!**

Headquarters

Jeffrey Piroutek, Engineering Technician Senior, Design
Joshua Powers, Program Consultant II, Public Involvement
Joe Torres, Computer Operator II, Computer Services

District One

Vickie Ridenour, Administrative Assistant, Topeka

District Two

Derek Surber, Engineering Technician Associate, Salina

District Four

Brett Goins, Equipment Operator Trainee, Independence
Amanda Girth, Administrative Assistant, Pittsburg
Craig Gretencord, Equipment Operator Trainee, Ottawa
Robert Travis, Equipment Operator Trainee, Pittsburg

District Five

Jody Dendurant, Engineering Associate I, Wichita



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To KDOT:

I wish every public office ran as efficiently as yours did. I wrote to you a couple of weeks ago requesting 100 Kansas road maps bound for Uganda, Africa, to teach the high school students in the Makindu district about map skills at our namesake school, “Kansas College.” I never would have expected such a timely response from workers in your office. I received your box almost a week ago. I am so excited and have been looking for map exercises to supplement the maps.

Thank you so much for your help. I can't wait to share the maps, and know that every teacher and every kid in that high school will have their own map so they can learn skills that will transfer to any transportation map in Africa.

Sincerely,
Carol Franz
Paola

Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of a former KDOT employee who recently passed away.

Judith A. Shadduck Meier 69, died Aug. 6, in Topeka. She worked in Transportation Planning before her retirement.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph George Meier, one son, one daughter, two grandchildren, four step-children, two step-grandchildren and a step-great-granddaughter.

Memorial contributions may be made to Midland Hospice Home Health Care, 200 SW Frazier Circle, Topeka, KS 66606-2800 or St. Josephs Catholic Church, 227 SW VanBuren, Topeka, KS 66603.

KDOT Computer Training

– from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

Mailbox Maintenance

Your Outlook Mailbox may be bigger than you think. Keeping your Inbox lean and clean helps keep the email servers quick and responsive. The KCTC has partnered with BCS to create a hand-out that is being distributed in all of our classes. Here are a few tips to start with:

Problem: Too many Deleted Items, you may regularly delete mail from your in-box, but how often do you empty your Deleted Items? This applies to the Junk-Mail folder too.

Solution: Right-Click on the Deleted Items folder and select Empty Deleted Items Folder. Empty Deleted and Junk folders once a month.

Problem: A Thousand Sent Items. Sent or forwarded emails sit in your Sent Items Folder.

Solution: You can delete them all by selecting the Sent Items folder, press Ctrl A to select all and press Delete on the keyboard. Remember to then empty the Deleted Items.

Problem: Deleting one at a time is slow!

Solution: Select the first email you want to delete, press and hold the shift key on the keyboard, click the last email you want to select, release the shift key and press delete. You can sort potential delete items by changing the View options.

Problem: Keeping attachments. Email attachments take up space.

Solution: Save the attachments, delete the mail. Right-click the attachment, click Save As, save it and delete the mail.

Check out the shared calendar: KCTC for on-going classes. Contact the KCTC at kctc@ksdot.org or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993.

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NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in October

10 YEARS

Deanna Bauer Topeka
 Terry Blackwell Holton
 Caroline Bock Kingman
 Aaron Cowdin Topeka
 Kurt Daniels Topeka
 Richard Eggers McPherson
 David Howard Topeka
 Terry Johnson Kansas City
 Tammy Matthews Lakin
 Leann Oblander Silver Lake
 Charles Pulliam Cherokee
 Timmy Reid Garden City
 Shane Schumaker Norton
 Michael Simmons Tyro
 Willard Trout Jr. Osage City
 Alexander Ukrazhenko Clay Center
 Ronald Whitworth Easton

20 YEARS

Howard Bibb Jr. Overland Park
 Rance Biesecker Abilene
 Charlotte Fitzgerald Topeka
 Alex Link Topeka
 Annette Ratcliff Valley Center
 John Rutledge Humboldt

30 YEARS

Gary Farlow Tecumseh
 Michael Hays Topeka
 Mitchell McGee Topeka
 Scott McLenon Effingham
 Ronald Weyer Basehor

40 YEARS

William Parcels Topeka

50 YEARS

Gerald Mai Salina

State service anniversaries are compiled by Personnel Services. Employees and home towns are included in this list.