

Kansas Department of Transportation

MEMO TO: Division Directors
District Engineers
Bureau Chiefs
Local Agencies

FROM: Intelligent Transportation Systems Unit
KDOT Bureau of Transportation Planning

DATE: January 14, 2011

SUBJECT: Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Set-Aside Program

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is now soliciting funding requests for the fiscal year 2013 ITS Set-Aside Fund.

ITS uses electronics, computers, sensors, communications, and management strategies to improve roadway safety and transportation system efficiency. The goal of the ITS Set-Aside Program is to promote ITS within the state by funding research and technology applications. The program was created in 1999 with the intent of providing “seed money” to encourage participation and investment in ITS technologies by state, county, and city governments. The set-aside fund was made available beginning in fiscal year 2000 and has been part of the Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP). In FY 2000, \$1 million in funding was available. That amount was increased to \$1.5 million for FY 2001 and to \$2.0 million for FY 2002 through FY 2009, coinciding with the end of the CTP. Funding for the state fiscal year 2013 ITS Set-Aside Program will be sourced through T-WORKS, the comprehensive transportation program passed by the 2010 Kansas Legislature. The ITS Set-Aside fund is managed by the ITS Unit in the KDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety and Technology. We are proceeding with the application process for FY 2013 and encourage you to apply.

In order to distribute these funds, the ITS Unit is soliciting project requests. All applications should be submitted on the **KDOT ITS Set-Aside Program FY2013 Project Request Form**, and should include a detailed description of the project. As part of the KDOT Statewide ITS Plan, project selection criteria were established and will be used to determine project selection. Each project will be rated by the KDOT ITS Steering Committee based on these criteria. The ITS Steering Committee will evaluate the projects, determine preliminary funding allocations, and submit their recommendations to the KDOT Program Review Committee for approval. After final approval, award letters will be sent out, and a meeting will be held with fund recipients to review their responsibilities.

Funding is available for projects that apply ITS technologies such as advanced sensor, computer, electronics, and communications and management strategies to increase the safety and efficiency of the transportation system. ITS has applications in urban and rural areas, commercial vehicle operations, and transit. Consideration for funding will be given to all of these areas. It is strongly encouraged that projects submitted take into account the communications architecture required for operation. Integration of systems with existing or planned infrastructure needs to be considered as

well. **Applications should also include information related to integration with current and/or future ITS projects.**

The ITS Steering Committee will score and rank projects based on the following criteria:

- Anticipated ITS benefits.
- Likelihood to succeed.
- Cost effectiveness.
- Matching funds or KDOT Project.
- Rural/Local impact.

Additional points will be given to projects that use new and innovative technologies with the intent of saving lives, time, and money. For more information, please review ITS resources available on the web at www.itsa.org, www.its.dot.gov, or the KDOT ITS site at www.ksdot.org/burtransplan/burovr/inttrans.asp

Once funding determinations are made, a KDOT project number will be assigned to each project approved for funding. A detailed schedule for this year's ITS Set-Aside Program applications is provided below:

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| February 25, 2011 | Project submissions due to the KDOT ITS Unit. |
| March 31, 2011 | Project awards approved by Program Review Committee. |
| April 08, 2011 | Letters of award sent. Meetings will then be set up with award recipients to discuss funding uses and responsibilities of recipients. |

If you have any questions regarding the KDOT ITS Program, the ITS Set-Aside fund or questions on the solicitation procedures, please direct them to Ryan Lynch, ITS Engineering Associate, at (785) 296-3387 or by e-mail at ITS@ksdot.org. Thank you for your interest.

Submit completed forms to the KDOT ITS Unit at ITS@ksdot.org no later than February 25, 2011.

Attachments

- c: District Construction Engineers
District Maintenance Engineers
District Material Engineers
Area Engineers
ITS Steering Committee