

From: [Julie Lorenz \[KDOT\]](#)
To: [KDOT#ALL](#)
Subject: Sunday update
Date: Sunday, April 5, 2020 6:30:29 PM

Good evening –

After a call with the Governor's office this afternoon, and in consultation with Burt, we're not bringing maintenance workers back as fast we had planned. I'd like to highlight three points this evening:

1. **There aren't easy or clear answers.** I don't know anyone who has dealt with a pandemic at this scale. We're making decisions with the info we have – and when we get new info, we'll make different decisions if we need to. Office work, construction and lab work is pretty straightforward. Maintenance work, often conducted by teams, is less straightforward – and with a little more time, we can better think through shifting CDC guidelines related to covering faces, inventorying sanitization supplies, etc.
2. **Do your part; the next two weeks will be tougher.** Work safely from home or at the job site. Respond if you're called out for an emergency. In all cases – stay home when you're not working. Info about the virus continues to evolve and the only sure advice is to stay away from others. It's not just abt keeping yourself healthy – many people are spreading the virus because they don't know they have it. If you have questions or concerns, don't hesitate to contact your supervisor. We know this is an unprecedented situation and decisions are evolving quickly – if you're uncertain about how to proceed in a situation – please call your supervisor.
3. **This won't last forever.** While I appreciate the references to fighting a war with the virus and there are similarities; this also isn't going to last for four years. This isn't World War I or World War II where the outcome was unsure for years. It's a matter of how bad the situation will get – and we do our part by staying 6' away from others.

Hang in there – brighter days are head. I've been saying that since I returned – and I still absolutely mean it.

While it's taking longer than expected to deliver, we're also stronger together now than ever before.



Julie L. Lorenz | Secretary of Transportation
Julie.Lorenz@ks.gov | Director of Kansas Turnpike Authority

Kansas Department of Transportation
700 SW Harrison St.
Topeka, KS 66063