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Dates set for discussions about use of unmanned aerial systems

The dates for a series of discussions about the use of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) have been set, including the culminating Kansas UAS Summit in the fall.

The working sessions leading up to the summit will focus on specific applications of UAS, also known as drones, in the areas of law enforcement and emergency management, small business and research. The first working session was March 11 and focused on agriculture.

“There is already great interest in the use of UAS among public and private groups in Kansas. It’s prudent for us to be on the leading edge of this budding industry, to understand the needs of current and future users, and to figure out how we safely and efficiently get from here to there,” said Jesse R. Romo, Director of Aviation at the Kansas Department of Transportation.

Dates and locations of the remaining working sessions and summit are as follows:

- **April 20**, 1-3 p.m., emergency management/law enforcement, Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, 11009 S. Hornet St., Hutchinson.
- **June 5**, 1-3 p.m., research and survey, Kansas State University at Salina, 2310 Centennial Rd., Salina.
- **July 15**, 1-3 p.m., small business interests, National Center for Aviation Training, 4404 N. Webb Rd., Wichita.
- **August 25**, 1-3 p.m., all segments meeting and update on UAS policies and regulations, Kansas Department of Transportation, 700 S.W. Harrison, Topeka.

- **Oct. 15**, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Kansas UAS Summit, National Center for Aviation Training, 4404 N. Webb Rd., Wichita.

Although the discussions will be conducted by selected subject-matter experts in a moderated, round table format, the public is invited to attend. Please register to attend at <https://KansasUASSummit.eventbrite.com>.

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