

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 5, 2020

For more information:

Kim Stich

785.296.3585

October designated as Pedestrian Safety Month

It's important for pedestrians, drivers and other road users to always remember that pedestrian safety is a two-way street. That is why the Kansas Department of Transportation is participating in Pedestrian Safety Month in October, a traffic safety campaign created by the U.S. DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

"Through the IKE transportation program, we are committed to making continued investments in sidewalks and safe crossings in communities, on the state highway system, trail networks and shared-use paths," KDOT Secretary Julie Lorenz said.

In 2018, there were 6,283 pedestrians killed in traffic crashes in the United States, accounting for 17% of all traffic fatalities. This equals a traffic-related pedestrian death every 84 minutes.

Between 2008-2018, Kansas saw a 53% increase in pedestrian fatalities. Advancements in vehicle safety have increased survivability for occupants in crashes; however, pedestrians are still vulnerable.

"KDOT's top priority is safety, and I am worried to see the number of fatal crashes increase," said Secretary Lorenz. "We all have a role to play, and I urge everyone, whether you're a pedestrian or a motorist, to look out for one another, stay alert, avoid distractions and follow the rules of the road."

Check out KDOT's social media pages during October to learn more about:

- Speed and traffic calming
- Distractions and inattention
- Watching for children/yielding to pedestrians
- Visual/physical impairments, time of day precautions

For more information, visit the KDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian webpage at <http://www.ksdot.org/burRail/bike/default.asp> or contact KDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator Jenny Kramer at Jenny.Kramer@ks.gov.

For tips and information on pedestrian safety, visit: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/pedestrian-safety>.

###

This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the KDOT Office of Public Affairs, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

Click below to connect to KDOT's Social Networks:

