

Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 66603



phone: 785-296-3585
fax: 785-368-7415
www.ksdot.org

Julie Lorenz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

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For more information:

Cory Davis
785.296.7984
Cory.Davis@ks.gov

KDOT creates new Short Line Rail Improvement Fund

A new Short Line Rail Improvement Fund program has been created by the Kansas Department of Transportation to facilitate maintenance, rail relay and the rehabilitation of track, bridge, industrial leads and sidings on Class II or III (short line) railroads in Kansas. It is part of the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program passed this spring by the Kansas Legislature.

Participants in the program include any Class II or Class III railroad, as defined in 49 C.F.R., part 1201.1, holding a certificate of public convenience from the Surface Transportation Board or any owner or lessee located on or adjacent to a Class II or Class III (short line) railroad in the state of Kansas.

The program will have \$5 million available for 2020, 2021 and 2022. Participants are required to provide 30% of the total project cost in matching funds. A minimum of \$500,000 will be set-aside annually for lessees located on or adjacent to a Class II or Class III railroad. If the set-aside is not fully allocated, those funds will roll into the following years set-aside.

Qualified entities for the new program must submit project applications by 5 p.m. on Aug. 3, with the form available on KDOT's website [here](#).

For more information on the program or assistance with the application, contact John Maddox at 785.296.3228, John.Maddox@ks.gov; or Eddie Dawson at 785.296.3219, Eddie.Dawson@ks.gov. More program guidelines and project selection criteria details are available at <http://www.ksdot.org/burRail/Rail/default.asp>.

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