



### Kansas highway system ranked 5th in national report

The Kansas state highway system is ranked the nation's fifth best in overall highway performance and efficiency, according to the Reason Foundation.

The 21st Annual Highway Report, which is based on 2012 data, ranked Kansas number one in the category of rural interstate pavement condition, third in urban interstate congestion and fifth in rural arterial pavement condition.

The state-controlled highway system, which is the 27th largest system in the country, has consistently placed in the top tier of Reason reports. Kansas' overall rankings in recent reports are third in 2011, second in 2009, third in both 2008 and 2007, fifth in 2006 and third in 2005. There is no report for 2010.

In 2010, Kansas highways were ranked the nation's best in a report published in Reader's Digest magazine.

### TIGER grant to benefit passenger/freight rail service

A \$12.5 million federal TIGER grant to Garden City will fund important track improvements in southwest Kansas that will improve the Southwest Chief rail service. The Southwest Chief is a long-distance Amtrak passenger service that operates daily between Chicago and Los Angeles. The track improvements will also benefit freight movement.

"In addition to preserving train speeds on the Southwest Chief route, this project will also provide benefits to rural freight rail customers," said Transportation Secretary Mike King. "Improvements in train speeds, enhanced operating efficiency, and improvements in equipment utilization will provide economic benefits to Kansas businesses and farmers."

## TWORKS

The table below shows how much work was completed last quarter and how much has been completed so far in the program.

Complete Last Quarter		Total Complete
	Lettings	
\$37M		\$2.3B
	Projects	
80		1,162
	Miles of work	
596		7,983
	Bridges	
54		636
	Modal	
\$4.4M		\$100M

# Built for the Growth of Kansas

## From Transportation Secretary Mike King

### A fall like no other

This fall I logged thousands of miles visiting dozens of Kansas towns to talk transportation with more people than I have the ability to remember any more. (I'm sure the memory thing has nothing to do with the fact that I also turned a year older during all that travel.)

And, I've had a great time.

From late September through mid-October, a team of KDOT and KTA staffers and I visited Kansas City, Garden City, Hutchinson, Wichita, Chanute, Topeka, Hays and Salina for our bi-annual Local Consult meetings. There were great discussions about transportation priorities in every region of the state. We will be reporting on all the meetings, so please watch for updates on the KDOT website.

I enjoyed sharing good news with many communities about long hoped-for projects. In October I had the honor of traveling with Gov. Sam Brownback for major announcements in Arma and Wichita. In Arma, it was the Arma Connection, which will complete the four-laning of U.S. 69 between Kansas City and Pittsburg – a major corridor for students traveling to Pittsburg State University. And in Wichita, it was the announcement with KTA and our Wichita partners of a revamped and expanded U.S. 54 project on the city's east side that will reduce congestion and improve traffic flow.

In Hays, I announced that 75 counties and two cities will receive a combined \$10 million-plus in state funding under the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program. The new program will allow local governments to replace small deficient bridges.



**KDOT and KTA staff celebrate at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the joint facility in Emporia on Oct. 16.**

And in Emporia, I was extremely pleased to help open a KDOT/KTA co-location facility. This is not just a money-saver; it is a symbol of the formalized partnership between the state's two transportation agencies. In my remarks at the ribbon-cutting I said that KDOT and KTA are the same people Kansans have depended on all those years to help you arrive where you're going safely. Now, we can do it in a more collaborative and strategic way.

And through all the travel and touring, we were been lucky enough to have the Royals provide entertainment and inspiration as they made their remarkable October run to the World Series.

It's been a great fall!



## Expo raises awareness of the importance of Kansas aviation

Hundreds of Kansans in multiple cities took part in the late September Kansas Aviation Expo designed to raise awareness of the importance aviation has on local communities, the state economy and as a career field.

The expo featured a three-day barnstorming tour of Wellington, Hutchinson, Dodge City, Scott City, Salina, Topeka, Pittsburg, Independence and Benton. Educational opportunities for students included sessions on agriculture, space exploration, helicopter piloting, flight simulator training, unmanned aerial systems, military aviation, business aviation and aircraft manufacturing. In addition, several hundred high school students participated in the “Flying Classroom,” which demonstrated how STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is used in aviation. Leading the Flying Classroom was national aviation advocate and pilot Barrington Irving.

Also participating was Amelia Rose Earhart, who spoke about her around-the-world flight and the Fly With Amelia Foundation that helps high school girls learn about flying.

## Kansas kids win statewide poster contest focused on improving traffic safety

Seven-year-old Payton Bowling of Ft. Scott, 10-year-old Lindsay Mueller of Palmer and 12-year-old Elle Barker of El Dorado are the statewide winners in the 2014 Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest for all Kansas kids ages 5-13.

Each young artist was first selected as a regional winner and will receive a bicycle and a helmet donated by Safe Kids Kansas at presentations at their schools. The prizes will be presented by the Kansas Department of Transportation and the Kansas Highway Patrol.

From the 18 regional winners, Bowling, Mueller and Barker were then chosen as the statewide winner in their age category. They will each also receive a family package from the Great Wolf Lodge waterpark in Kansas City, Kan., and also a \$50 gift card from Dillon’s of Kansas.

A total of 1,344 kids across Kansas ages 5 to 13 took the time to think about safety and participated in the contest. Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day is a nationwide effort to increase roadway safety and reduce all traffic fatalities.



Poster by 12-year-old Elle Barker of El Dorado.



Where each T-WORKS dollar goes

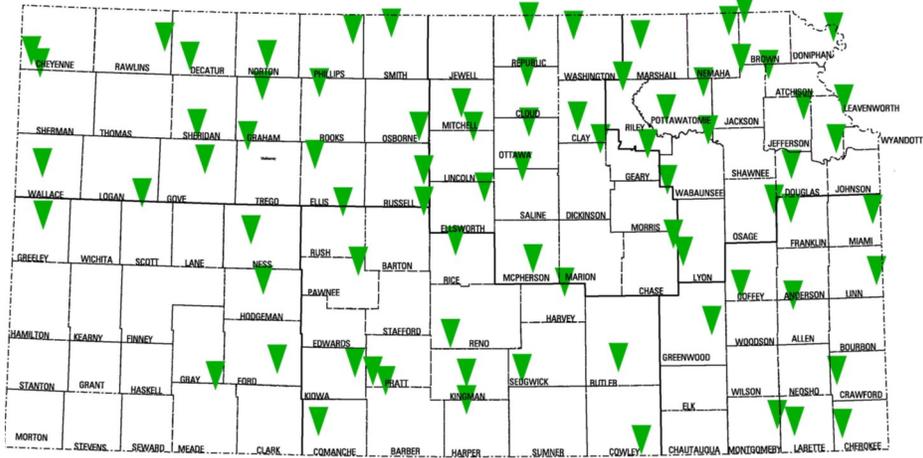


- Construction \$ .47
- Local Programs \$ .18
- Debt Service: \$ .11
- Routine Maintenance: \$ .09
- Transfers (KHP, etc.): \$ .08
- Planning, Staff, Buildings: \$ .04
- Aviation, Rail & Transit: \$ .02

- Sales Tax: \$ .28
- Kansas Motor Fuels Tax: \$ .26
- Federal Funds: \$ .23
- Registration Fees: \$ .12
- Bond Proceeds: \$ .06
- Other: (Driver' License Fees): \$ .03
- Local Funds: \$ .02

Where each T-WORKS dollar comes from

### 77 Bridges selected for improvement



### Counties, cities benefit from bridge replacement program

Seventy-five counties and two cities will receive up to \$120,000 each to replace small, low-volume deficient bridges under the first year of the Kansas Local Bridge Improvement Program.

Every jurisdiction that applied was selected for funding under the program that requires the local government to contribute 10 percent of the cost. In addition to receiving money to replace bridges, some locals qualified for up to \$40,000 more if they were willing to take another deficient bridge off their system, thus improving the state's total transportation network.

Qualifying deficient bridges must have a daily vehicle count of less than 100 and a length of 20 to 50 feet.

In its first year, the program has proven to be very popular. While the bridges have low traffic counts, they are very important to farmers who depend on them to get equipment to fields and crops to market.

### Kansas Traffic Fatalities

July through September 2014	100
July through September 2013	102
January through September 2014	287
January through September 2013	256