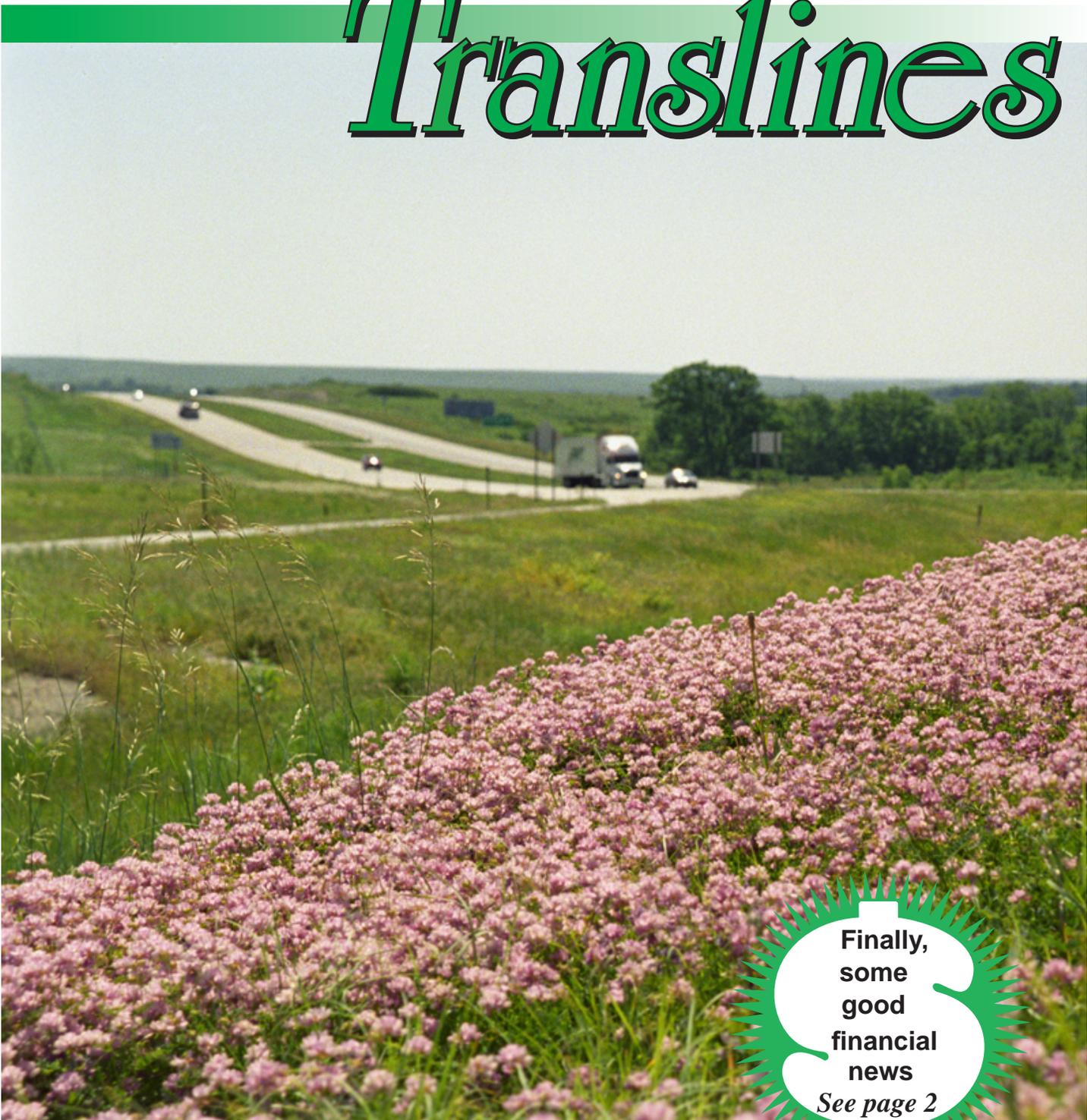


Translines



Finally,
some
good
financial
news
See page 2

Inside...

- ◆ **Stewart named District Three Engineer**
- ◆ **Team researches, implements two-lift process**

- ◆ **Economic stimulus package provides funding**
- ◆ **Airport projects selected for funding**
- ◆ **Skills learned in Egg Drop contest**



By Secretary
Deb Miller

Finally, some good financial news

Amid all the doom and gloom we seem to be sinking into these days, some good news occasionally rises to the surface. That's been the case with the bids KDOT has been receiving of late.

The down economy, the winding down of the CTP, the construction slow-down in China and India and market place principles have combined to put us in an advantageous position during the past few months' bid lettings. Many projects have been coming in under projections this year. Way under. For example:

- The low bid for the U.S. 59 expansion in Franklin County came in \$7.2 million or 26.5 percent under the program estimate of \$27 million.
- The K-61/Reno County low bid was \$16.8 million or 29 percent below the estimate of \$58 million.
- And the low bid for the U.S. 50 expansion in Finney County was a whopping \$20 million or 30 percent below the \$68 million estimate.

Needless to say, we're ecstatic with those bid prices. While they can't solve the agency's fundamental economic problems, they have allowed us to let many of the projects we suspended in December and January because of funding uncertainties. Most of the suspended projects were preser-

vation work, but there were some big projects, as well.

To take advantage of these great bids, we've let some projects earlier than planned, such as the U.S. 50 project I already mentioned. And, when we were selecting stimulus work, we chose projects we knew could be let quickly before bid prices start creeping up again. We expect that as more and more stimulus work gets under way, the window on this period of low bids will begin to close.

Who knows when we'll reach the bottom of this recession and start to see real recovery? But after months of discouraging economic reports, it sure feels good to get some good financial news again.

--- --- ---

April 6-10 is Work Zone Safety Awareness Week, which gives us cause to think about the people who face the perils of working alongside traffic every day. To raise awareness this year, an outstanding video and a 30-second public service announcement have been produced by our staff.

If you haven't already viewed the video, you can watch it from the KDOT intranet site at <http://kdotweb.ksdot.org/Documents/FeaturedSections.htm>. It includes interviews with many of our co-workers and very moving comments from Shirley McDonald, whose son Scotty was working for KDOT north of Topeka in 2005 when he was struck and killed by a car.

Over the last 10 years, more than 130 highway workers and motorists were killed in Kansas work zones. In 2006, the Kansas Legislature upgraded the Move Over law to require drivers to move away from highway workers on the side of the road. While that creates awareness and a fine for failure to move over, it's not a physical barrier between workers and the vehicles that pass by, sometimes at arm's length.

For those of us who work in offices, please take some time to consider the well being of our colleagues who work on the roadside and urge others to think about them as well. And for those of you who are out on the road, please stay alert and exercise caution. There are people who are counting on you to come home safely every day.



Eisenhower Building-
2nd Floor West,
700 SW Harrison,
Topeka, Ks 66603-3754

Governor: Kathleen Sebelius
Secretary of Transportation: Deb Miller
Chief of Transportation Information: Steve Swartz
Editors: Stan Whitley and Kim Stich

Phone/TTY: (785) 296-3585 ♦ FAX: (785) 296-0287

Calendar of Events

April 7-8 – Transportation Safety Conference, Hyatt Regency, Wichita.

April 10 – 9:30 a.m. - Highway Advisory Commission meeting.

April 14-15 – Kansas State Transportation Engineering Conference in Manhattan.

April 15 – 1 p.m. Construction bid letting, Fourth Floor, West Wing, Eisenhower State Office Building.



Dave Cronin and Matt Hinshaw, ASCE Kansas Section, Young Members Group, drop structures made by students for the 19th annual Egg Drop competition on March 7 in Topeka.

Stewart named District Three Engineer

By Kristen Brands

Jeff Stewart was named District Three Engineer for the northwest Kansas, 18-county region effective March 9.

Stewart graduated from Kansas State University in 1995 with a degree in civil engineering. He began working for KDOT in 1994 as a summer employee in the Great Bend construction office. He was hired full-time as an Engineering Associate in 1995 for the Marion construction office.



Jeff Stewart

In 2002, he was promoted to the Construction Engineer in Norton's District Three office.

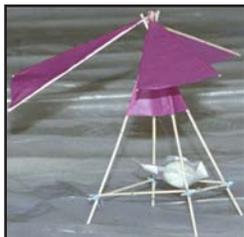
"I am excited for this opportunity and remain committed to working with everyone on transportation issues in northwest Kansas," said Stewart.

Stewart and his wife, Teresa, who is also a civil engineer, live in Norton with their two children Coral, 5, and Tyler, 1.

Stewart succeeds Chriss McDiffett, who retired from the district engineer's position and the agency after 25 years of state service.

Skills learned in Egg Drop contest

It's no yolk. Ninety-five teams of students from Shawnee County and surrounding communities each dropped an uncooked egg from a 20-foot height to see if the structures they built could protect it from breaking during the 19th annual Egg Drop competition on March 7 in Topeka.



neers (ASCE) Kansas Section, Young Member Group.

Creating the structures for the contest encourages kids to use engineering concepts, said Aaron Frits, KDOT Road Squad Leader and ASCE Egg Drop Coordinator.

"The contest brings awareness about engineering in general and helps influence kids to go into math and science in high school and college," Frits said. "And it's a lot of fun – what's cooler than seeing stuff smashed." -K.S.

Fourth to ninth grade students participated in the event to see who could construct the lightest structure possible that would keep an egg from breaking when dropped. The event is sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engi-

Team work crucial in rescue, traffic control

Team work was the key in the rescue of people trapped in a burning vehicle on March 9 on U.S. 24 in Topeka.

Heavy Equipment Crew Supervisor Leo Perry was driving to work early that morning and came upon the accident just after it happened. As Perry ran back to the scene, the vehicle engine ignited, but other stopped motorists were working to get the people out.

So Perry and another motorist went to stop the two westbound lanes of

traffic. "We needed to get traffic stopped so we didn't have any other injuries," he said.

Once that was accomplished, Perry ran back and helped them get the last person out of the car. Emergency personnel arrived very soon after that as well as other KDOT employees who got there to set up traffic control.

"I'm just thankful that all three of the kids got out – a lot of people worked together to make that happen," Perry said. -K.S.



Leo Perry

On the... COVER

A variety of flowers bloom along I-70 in eastern Wabaunsee County. Photo by Sonya Schueneman



Members of the Two-Lift PCCP Research Project team pose for a picture with Secretary Deb Miller (front row, fourth from left) after receiving the Example of Excellence. Photo by Kurt Weaverling

Team researches, implements two-lift process

By Kim Stich

KDOT employees from across the state worked together to construct a 24-foot wide pavement using the two-lift construction and the exposed aggregate process. KDOT is the first state to attempt the implementation.

Members of the Two-Lift PCCP Research Project team were honored as an Example of Excellence for the fourth quarter of 2008. Secretary Deb Miller attended the event on March 9 in Topeka.

The Federal Highway Administration sponsored a European scan tour, "Long Life Concrete Pavement," in 2006 to learn techniques for 40-plus-year pavements being used in Europe, according to Andy Gisi, Geotechnical Engineer.

"The two-lift concrete pavement construction received the highest ratings – it allows for more economical pavements by using the best material available, promotes recycling and improves surface safety characteristics," Gisi said.

When constructing the pavement, there were several firsts for KDOT and Koss Construction: two-lift construction, set accelerator for bottom lift, exposed aggregate, set retarder for top lift, grooving, artificial turf drag, plastic forming of longitudinal joint, and two different concrete mixes coming from the same dual drum mixing plant. All these required considerable work in addition to the large number of specimens made for numerous tests, Gisi said.

Members of the team include: **District One** - Mary Miller, Tammy Wilson; **District Two** - Randy Bryant, José Calvillo-Fuerte, Chuck Clemmer, Kevin Dolton, Karen

Ehrlich, David Greiser, Bill Harris, Dale E. Hershberger, Bill Hirt, Linda Holub, Randy Hutchinson, Vickie Kaempfe, David Kelly, Mike Larkin, Shad Lohman, Gerry Mai, Ed Robinson, Tim Roeder, Tom Stoppel; **District Four** - David Baldrige, Rusty Drake, James Metcalf, Brian Schafer, Doug Severt, David Weirich; **District Five** - Jason Brown, John Nelson; **Bureau of Materials and Research** - Thomas Allen, Jim

Bernica, Randy Billinger, Jennifer Distlehorst, Jessica Espinoza, Andy Gisi, Bob Heinen (retired), Doug Hilmes, Travis Hirt, Michael Guerrero, Daryl Leeth, John Mah, Tom Nordling, Rod Montney, Bill Parcels, Russell Penn, Gloria Pontious, Ralph Pollock, Greg Schieber, Matt Stadler, Tabitha Taylor, Ross Worthing; **Bureau of Support Services** - Bret Mathias.

Do you know of a KDOT group, team, unit, or office that has gone above the call of duty? Then nominate them for the Example of Excellence award. All KDOT employees are encouraged to suggest ideas and can now fill out Form DOT 1204. Once it is filled out, the nomination is then sent to the selected Division Director, Bureau Chief, District Engineer, Area Engineer, or Subarea Supervisor who can sign the form and then submit it to Transportation Information.

Hard copies of the form are still available by calling Transportation Information at 785-296-3585 and require the signature of one of the supervisors listed above.

The award is given quarterly with nominations for the first quarter due to Transportation Information by March 31 and by June 30 for the second quarter.





By

**Sandra
Tommer**
**TRANSPORTATION
TALK**

Key steps to a successful construction project

The most important aspect of a successful project is ongoing communication. This means talking with everyone from the new ETA to the Area Engineer to the District staff. It means talking to the contractor, the subcontractors and when needed, local government, business owners and utility companies. The more informed key partners are, the easier it is to make good decisions.

Sometimes the topics to be discussed are not pleasant, such as utility conflicts that cause delays or plan changes due to unforeseen problems. The sooner issues are discussed, the easier they are to resolve, especially before more work occurs making resolutions expensive and time consuming.

Key project steps to follow are:

1. Prior to letting.

Review plans and specifications, look at phasing and identify potential conflicts. Talk with designers to see if they had issues when developing the plans. Check with utility companies to identify potential delays or conflicts.

2. After the letting.

Review plans, specifications and special provisions with KDOT project staff...ask and answer questions. Ensure that inspectors assigned to the project know the requirements and testing procedures that they will inspect or perform.

3. After contract award.

Check with the successful contractor to see what the proposed project schedule is. Ask them when they want to

hold a pre-construction conference and what specific topics they want covered at the conference. Inform them of any potential conflicts that you become aware of. Don't surprise the contractor with issues a few days before they plan to begin work. When you know the proposed start date, coordinate with your Public Affairs Manager (PAM) for a project news release. If needed, create a fact sheet for the public to answer general project questions.

4. Once work begins.

Stay in contact with project staff, provide updated schedules and discuss potential issues. Depending on construction operations, hold weekly project meetings with contractor's staff and weekly inspection staff meetings as needed.

Don't let issues stagnate...take timely action. Develop a tracking system for progress of requests, submittals and project-related questions. Assign someone to oversee the tracking system and if necessary give a nudge to those who need reminding. Don't hesitate to bring additional people on board to resolve issues. Keep the designer in tune with project activities, especially on projects with design issues. Invite the designer to the project site to observe an operation or see a problem that has developed as this may help with future plans.

Pay the contractor promptly for completed work. You need your paycheck, so do they. The contractor must pay for materials and labor to keep the job going.

Provide timely updates to your PAM, including traffic switches, phasing changes, etc. Keeping the PAM informed can help eliminate complaints or questions from the public that you won't have to deal with.

Keep up with change orders, test reports and other project documentation. The contractor doesn't need to hear that you lost certifications or that a certification for an item placed at the beginning of the project wasn't completed.

Everyone involved needs to communicate daily and work as a team to provide a quality project that's finished on time and on budget.

5. Once work is finished.

Complete all change orders and make final payment to the contractor as soon as possible. With the contractor, submit paperwork for any awards possible.

When you have a successful project, both KDOT staff and the contractor will look forward to partnering again on future projects. They will be proud of what has been accomplished and will appreciate recognition for a job well done.

Sandra Tommer is the District One Construction Engineer.

Economic stimulus package provides for funding statewide

By Stan Whitley

Much of the \$377 million that accounts for Kansas' economic stimulus package has been identified, but there are still pieces of the pie that communities throughout the state hope to taste.

The majority of the funding will go to five major stimulus projects designed to help create jobs, improve safety and encourage economic growth in Kansas. However, communities in Kansas definitely will get to share in the economic stimulus funds.

"The major stimulus projects we selected were 'game changers' that will make a difference to regional and state economies by creating 10,000-12,000 jobs," said Secretary Deb Miller. "But it's important to note we are committed to sharing more funding with cities and counties throughout the state."

The stimulus plan directed \$22 million go to Kansas City and \$16 million to Wichita, but KDOT is making approximately \$32 million available to cities and counties throughout the state. Applications for the local projects were due to KDOT March 13 and the projects were announced March 20. Although the projects weren't known at press time, they will be

Continued on page 7

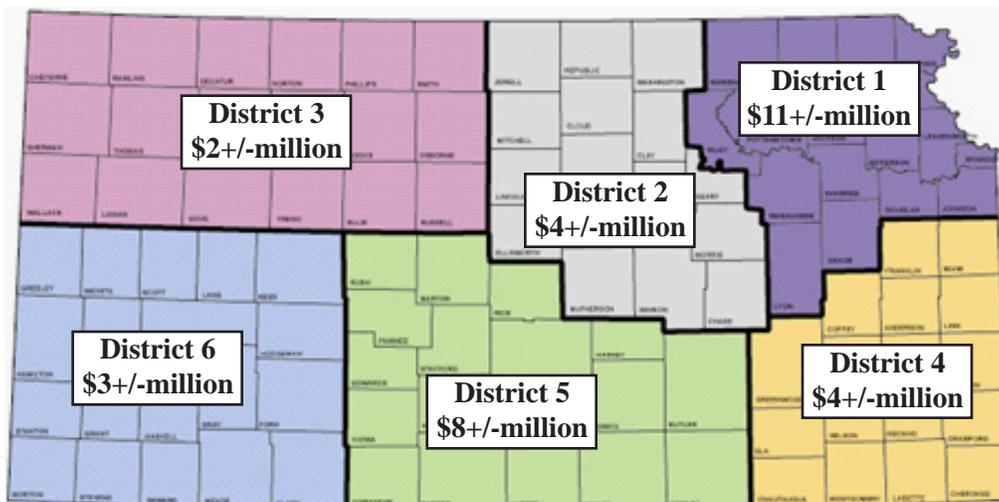
HOW MUCH MONEY DOES KANSAS GET?

KANSAS = \$378 million total

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| ◆ HIGHWAYS = | \$348 million |
| ◆ State Highways = | \$268 million |
| ◆ Kansas City = | \$22 million |
| ◆ Wichita = | \$16 million |
| ◆ Local governments = | \$32 million |
| ◆ Transportation Enhancements = | \$10 million |
| | |
| ◆ TRANSIT = | \$30 million |
| ◆ Urban Providers = | \$16 million |
| ◆ Rural Providers = | \$14 million |

Number of Jobs?

Based on the Federal Highway and Transit Administrations' methodologies, it's estimated the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 will create or sustain 10,000 to 12,000 jobs in Kansas.



What it means for Local Governments

The estimated \$32 million for local governments will be allocated to the six KDOT districts (regions based on regional population and miles of road, similar to the formula used by the Special City County Highway Fund). The estimated funding for each district based on this formula is shown at left.

Other Key Points:

◆ ARRA funds are “use it or lose it.” In order to make sure that all funds are spent in Kansas rather than being returned to the national pool, local governments must have their projects ready by December 1, 2009, which is earlier than ARRA requires. Funds not obligated on time will be returned to KDOT and applied to other projects to meet the ARRA deadline.

◆ Using KDOT’s approach, ARRA funds for state, local and transit projects will be spent all across Kansas.

◆ In keeping with ARRA’s goal of creating new jobs, KDOT’s priority will be to advance as much additional work as possible rather than funding projects that were already planned and funded.



Secretary Deb Miller speaks about the economic stimulus package Kansas received at a news conference on Feb. 20 in Topeka.

ARRA

Continued from page 6

posted on KDOT’s Web site at www.ksdot.org.

Ron Seitz, KDOT Chief of Local Projects, said the local funds were allocated to KDOT’s six geographical districts based on regional population and miles of road.

Other local funding opportunities include an additional \$14 million available for rural transit providers and \$10 million available for Transportation Enhancement projects such as bicycle/pedestrian rails and depot restorations. Nationwide, \$1.1 billion is available for grants to airports and KDOT estimates that Kansas has \$25 million worth of projects that would be eligible for these funds.

The first stimulus project to be let for bids will be on April 15, which will involve a project to expand K-61 to four lanes from McPherson to the Reno County line. In February, Koss Construction Co., of Topeka was awarded a contract for the K-61 four-lane expansion in Reno County from the county

line to Hutchinson. Work is already underway on the Reno County project.

Three other major stimulus projects will be let for bids on May 20. They include:

- U.S. 69, Overland Park - Reconstruction of the interchange at I-435 to address congestion issues and support economic development.
- I-135/47th Street, Wichita - Reconstruct and upgrade the interchange to remove a bottleneck and to provide a link to an underutilized area.
- K-23 in Gove County - Cost effective “practical improvement” to 16 miles of a narrow 50-year old road to enhance safety and stimulate economic activity.

A future stimulus project will involve funding for the initial phase of four-lane expansion on K-18 between Manhattan and Fort Riley. The actual amount of funds that will go toward that project won’t be known until bids come in on the previous stimulus projects.

Highway/Railroad Safety Conference



Attendees stop by safety booths on topics such as railroad crossings and Operation Lifesaver at the Kansas/Missouri Highway-Railroad Safety Conference on March 4-5 in Overland Park. Photos by Kurt Weaverling



KDOT Computer Training

— from the KCTC

Increase your efficiency!

FOCUS: Adobe 8 Redacting

The KCTC receives many questions about software. Recently a question about redacting Adobe PDF files was asked and we thought this would be a good process to share.

Redaction refers to careful editing methods for removing content in a document such as confidential information and replacing it with a space holder of some type, such as a colored box, default text or code or blank space prior to publishing a document. Problems arise when an improper method is used and sensitive information is disclosed.

You need Adobe Acrobat 8 to redact an Acrobat file. This will be permanent, and people won't be able to copy and paste the text to see what it said before the redaction. To redact text in Adobe Acrobat 8: Click View, Toolbars, Redacting. Select the text you want to redact, then click Mark for Redaction. If you want to use a "find and replace" type feature, click the Search and Redact button.

A box will pop up on the left. Type the word you want to search for, then click Search. After it finds the words, click the checkbox in front of each occurrence of the word you want to redact. Then click the Mark Checked Results for Redaction button. To actually redact the words, click the Apply Redactions button.

When you save the document, the redacted text cannot be recovered. You will need to Save As if you want to keep the original unredacted copy of the document.

Check out the shared calendar: KCTC for on-going classes. Contact the KCTC at kctc@ksdot.org or call Ingrid Vandervort 785-296-8993.

Deaths

Condolences to the family and friends of two former KDOT employees who recently passed away.

Bill Weber, 74, died March 7 in Topeka. Weber was in charge of KDOT's photography and printing sections when he retired in 1993. He is survived by two children, two grandchildren, two brothers and one sister.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Matthew Catholic Church in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 S.W. Urish Road, Topeka, 66614.

Clarence E. Cain, 78, died Feb. 25 in Ottawa. Mr. Cain had worked as an Engineering Technician at Iola and also served on a statewide soils survey crew.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear David Marsh (Area Supervisor in Syracuse):

I felt I really needed to write and say a personal thank you for staying with us on Highway 50 on that day after Thanksgiving. You certainly didn't need to turn around – but you did. You didn't need to wait in the cold until the State Patrol came – but you did. You indeed made our day easier to deal with.

The insurance company made the repairs and we are all ok. That is the most important part of all.

Again, thank you,
Gary and Velva Addington

Editor's Note: Marsh assisted these motorists while traveling in Colorado.

Airport projects selected for funding

Thirty-seven projects that will improve safety and service enhancements at public use airports in the state have been selected for funding under the 2010 Kansas Airport Improvement Program (KAIP).

KDOT will contribute \$3.54 million in funding for the projects and with local matching funds of approximately \$2.57 million the total infrastructure investment will be \$6.1 million. The projects will address maintenance, runway, facility and equipment needs at non-primary public use airports in Kansas. These are airports in the state that are classified as having less than 10,000 passenger boardings per year.

"In 1999, one in four airports in Kansas had a pavement condition of poor or failing," said KDOT Director of Aviation Ed Young. "Now, less than one in 20 runways in Kansas is in poor or failing condition thanks in large measure to the 244 projects conducted at 97 different airports in every part of the state during the last 10 years."

Among the 37 projects selected, there are 18 maintenance projects, 17 equipment projects, one geometric project and one planning project. According to Young, nearly 8 percent of the program's allocation is spent on crack seal, joint repair and other basic maintenance projects. Those investments have helped the pavement condition

of Kansas airports receive an average pavement condition rating of 77, up from 49 in 1999.

Under guidelines of the program, project sponsors are required to pay a minimum of 10 percent of the total project costs, up to a maximum of 50 percent based on population.

'Now, less than one in 20 runways in Kansas is in poor or failing condition thanks in large measure to the 244 projects conducted at 97 different airports in every part of the state during the last 10 years.'

Ed Young

The following is a list of selected airport improvement projects.

Northeast Kansas

Baldwin – Reseed turf runway;
Osage City – Replace runway lighting system.

Northcentral Kansas

Abilene – Airport Weather Observation System and taxiway lighting; Hillsboro – Self-service fueling system and lighted windsock; Junction City – Self-service fueling system; McPherson – Repair taxiway and repair

drainage system; Moundridge – Ramp reconstruction; Salina – Repair north end of runway.

Northwest Kansas

Norton – Self-service fueling system; Osborne – Airport Weather Observation System and aeronautical survey; Rawlins County/Atwood – Upgrade Airport Weather Observation System and pilot controller for airfield lighting.

Southeast Kansas

Eureka – Repair, seal and mark runway; Neodesha – Replace wind cone.

Southcentral Kansas

Augusta – Airfield signage, repair, seal and mark runway; Benton – Precision approach path indicator, reconstruct taxiway, expand fuel ramp, reseeding; Great Bend – Replace taxiway lighting; Hutchinson – Repair taxiway and replace beacon; Oxford – Reconstruct runway; Rose Hill – Repair and seal runway, taxiway and ramp, airfield lighting and windsocks, radio controlled beacon; Wichita Cessna – Reconstruct taxiways; Wichita Jabara – Repair runway; Wichita Riverside – Widen runway and taxiways; Wellington – Upgrade Airport Weather Observation System for internet.

Southwest Kansas

Meade – Upgrade Airport Weather Observation System; Syracuse/Hamilton County – Seal and mark runway taxiway. - *S.W.*

Retirees

The following employees will officially retire from KDOT in April.

Headquarters

Nancy J. Rush, Legal Assistant, Chief Counsel

District One

Paul Gudenkauf Engineering Technician
Seneca

Donna L. Jordan, Engineering Technician, Emporia

Bernadette Meek, Administrative Assistant, Kansas City

Bruce D. Miller, Engineering Technician Specialist, Everest

The following employee officially retired from KDOT in March.

Headquarters

Norman C. Stahl, Human Resource Professional II, Topeka

Employees who choose to have retirement reception information shared on the Internet can be found at www.ksdot.org, under News and Announcements.

*Fun Facts
and Trivia*

Do you know?

A hailstone weighing more than one-and-a-half pounds once fell on Coffeyville, Kansas. No one was hit.

One inch of water yields about 10 inches of snow in light winds when temperatures are 28 to 34 degrees. One inch of water yields about 15 inches of snow at 20 to 27 degrees, and when temperatures are in the teens, 20 to 30 inches.

Tornadoes seem to be an almost-exclusive North American phenomena; they occur more often in the U.S. than anywhere else in the world.

The speed of an average falling rain drop is 7 miles per hour.

Liquid precipitation must be over 0.02 inch in diameter to be considered a raindrop. Anything smaller is considered drizzle.

Source: <http://twotrees.www.50megs.com/attic/trivia/weather.html>

Step Back in Time



Sixth District employees at Dodge City pose for a group photo back in October 1932. The employee at the left end of the second row was V.A. Bates, an Oil Road Sectionman. The picture was submitted by his son Ed Bates, who is an Equipment Operator at Sublette.

M I L E S T O N E S

KDOT salutes employees celebrating state anniversaries in March

10 YEARS

- Debra Cooper Topeka
- Elmer Hinds Independence
- Alvin Loveall Pleasanton
- Priscilla Petersen Independence
- Timothy Roeder Lindsborg
- Mary Sanders Berryton
- Darren Schloemer Great Bend

20 YEARS

- Danny Bahre Topeka
- Deborah McConnell Phillipsburg
- Ronald Rogers Selden
- Ronnie Swogar Madison

30 YEARS

- Robert Cotten Goodland

State service anniversaries are compiled by Personnel Services. Employees and home towns are included in this list.

Secretary tells House \$545 billion needed for programs

Enactment of the FY 2010 budget resolution “will be the starting point as the House considers the new surface transportation authorization bill,” said Secretary Deb Miller while testifying on March 17 before the House Budget Committee in Washington, D.C.

Appearing on behalf of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, Miller outlined a six-year, multi-modal transportation investment that includes:

- \$375 billion for highways;
- \$93 billion for transit;
- \$42 billion for freight, from outside the Highway

Trust Fund; and

- \$35 billion for intercity passenger rail, also from outside the Highway Trust Fund.

Miller noted that even before addressing authorization, however, the Congress must ensure that the Highway Trust Fund has sufficient revenue to fund the current program. An \$8 billion transfer made by Congress last September may not be sufficient to last through the year, she said.

The problem worsens next year, she said, noting, “Revenues are flowing into the Highway Trust Fund at a rate billions of dollars below the current rate of obligations for future spending. Come Oct. 1, unless Congress closes this gap, the highway program will face a cutback of \$20 billion or more for FY 2010. The transit program will face a \$5 billion reduction one year later. It is vital, at a minimum, to sustain the current highway and transit programs at no less than their current levels of funding.”

Miller’s complete testimony may be accessed at tinyurl.com/miller-2009-03-17.

For information on AASHTO’s authorization recommendations go to www.transportation.org.

KDOT sponsors sobriety rocks competition

KDOT is sponsoring its third-annual arts contest that encourages Kansas youth to resist pressure and abstain from drinking alcohol until reaching the legal age limit of 21.

The contest is an opportunity for Kansas’ youth to express themselves creatively through music, art, writing or video. Kansas residents, ages 12 through 20, can enter the competition by logging onto www.sobrietyrocksk.net. The deadline to enter is April 30.

Three separate \$1,000 college scholarships will be awarded in June of this year for best music, best art and best writing. It is possible for one contestant to win in more than one category.

“In 2008, the percentage of Kansas high school sophomores and seniors who reported having consumed alcohol in the previous 30 days was 37 percent and 50 percent, respectively,” said Pete Bodyk,

Manager of KDOT’s Traffic Safety section. “In fact, even more problematic is binge drinking, defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row.”

During 2008, 22 percent of high school sophomores and 33 percent – or one-third – of seniors reported engaging in this activity in just the previous two weeks. Bodyk recalled the Surgeon General’s, 2007 Call to Action on underage drinking in which he characterized underage drinking as a “widespread and persistent public health and safety problem [that was] not an acceptable rite of passage, but a serious threat to adolescent development and health, as the statistics related to adolescent impairment, injury, and death attest.”

Limited to music in past years, the contest this year has been expanded to include art, music and video submissions. Songs can be any format or style

of music. Art can be any medium, and writing can be poetry, fiction or non-fiction.

Judging will be based on originality, the passion and persuasiveness of the message and the likelihood that the work would be useful in next year’s effort to reduce underage drinking.

Kansas law declares that it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase, or attempt to purchase, possess or consume alcohol. It is also illegal for anyone to furnish alcohol to persons under the age of 21, except as provided by law. Furthermore, it is illegal for persons of any age to intentionally host individuals under the age of 21 who are in possession of, or drinking, alcohol while on property owned, rented, or otherwise controlled by the host.

Log onto www.sobrietyrocksk.net to enter or for more contest information.

Promotions/Transfers

Headquarters

Lisa Shelton, Senior Administrative Assistant, Personnel Services

District One

William Heptig, Engineering Associate III, Topeka

Brian Link, Equipment Operator Specialist, Gardner

James Thomas, Equipment Operator Specialist, Topeka

Joshua Welge, Professional Civil Engineer III, Topeka

District Three

Albert Plante, Office Coordinator, Norton

Jeff Stewart, District Engineer, Norton
The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information to Translines.

Kansas Department of Transportation

Bureau of Transportation Information
Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison, Second Floor, West
Topeka, KS 66603-3754

PRE-SORTED STANDARD

U.S. POSTAGE
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PERMIT No. 157

**Welcome
new KDOT
employees!**

District One

Dayna Barlow, Engineering Associate III, Emporia

Jacky Morrow, Equipment Operator Trainee, Shawnee

Scott McReynolds, Engineering Associate III, Olathe

Galen Worthington, Geology Trainee, Materials and Research

District Two

Shane Cullip, Equipment Mechanic, Clay Center

District Three

Stanley Smith, Equipment Operator Trainer, Smith Center

The Bureau of Personnel Services supplies information for new hires to Translines.

NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

Upcoming KDOT Training Courses

Classes at District Offices

- ♦ You'll Catch On: Chanute, April 21, 22
- ♦ Business Writing I & II: Chanute, April 23
- ♦ Transition To Leadership & Ethics: Bonner Springs, April 7, 8, 9
- ♦ You'll Catch On: Bonner Springs, May 5, 6
- ♦ Transition To Leadership & Ethics: Chanute, April 14, 15, 16
- ♦ Business Writing I & II: Hutchinson, April 15
- ♦ Overcoming Negativity I & II: Hutchinson, April 16
- ♦ You'll Catch On: Hutchinson, April 20, 21
- ♦ BEST – Week 1: April 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- ♦ You'll Catch On: Hutchinson, April 22, 23
- ♦ SMART, Module Session 1: May 5
- ♦ SMART, Module Session 2: May 6
- ♦ SMART, Module Session 3: May 7
- ♦ BEST – Week 2: May 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

Classes at Headquarters