

Translines EXPRESS

June 25, 2014

Bridges

Deficient bridges: A new \$10 million program announced Tuesday in Hutchinson by Secretary Mike King will provide up to \$120,000 to local jurisdictions – primarily counties – to replace small bridges that are rated deficient. Bridges that qualify must have a daily vehicle count of less than 100 and be 20 to 50 feet in length. There are approximately 20,000 bridges on Kansas' local road systems and about 18 percent of those are structurally deficient. Of those, about 1,800 to 1,900 would qualify for funding under program guidelines.

Local jurisdictions awarded funds must provide a 10 percent match.

Applications will be accepted through mid-September and project selections will follow in early October.



Top right, Secretary Mike King explains the new \$10 million program at a news conference on Tuesday to replace small bridges, like the ones shown above and at right.



District Two



Cloud County bridge: Repair work began recently on the K-9 bridge over the Republican River about 14 miles east of the U.S. 81/K-9 junction.

The bridge deck will be repaired and patched to extend the life of the bridge and improve ride quality. Traffic will be reduced to one lane with traffic signals. Reece Construction Co. Inc. is the prime contractor on the \$129,000 project. The work should be completed in mid-September.

Repair work on the K-9 bridge is under way. Mark Hurt's squad designed the project.

Trivia!

Soccer

1. How far does the average professional soccer player run in a soccer game?
2. It's called soccer in the U.S. and football elsewhere, but what was the original name of the sport?
3. How many panels are on a traditional soccer ball?
4. What is the name of the biggest soccer tournament in the world?
5. When did U.S. Major League Soccer begin?
6. Why did India withdraw from the World Cup in 1950?

Answers below

KTA



The graphic features a dark blue background on the left with the K-TAG logo (a stylized 'K' with a red arrow pointing right) and the tagline "Save on tolls. Save on time." Below this is a green background with the text "THE TAG IS NOW FREE!" in large yellow letters. A red banner at the bottom says "ORDER ONLINE TODAY!". A small disclaimer at the very bottom reads: "Free applies to non-transferable sticker tags only. For more information visit myktag.com."

K-TAG simplifies travel: After months of research and listening to our customers, exciting changes came to K-TAG on June 10. Here's what you need to know:

- Sticker tags are now free and are available at www.myktag.com, by calling the K-TAG customer service center at 316-652-2650, and at select retail locations. (Tags are not available at tollbooths right now. That will happen later this summer when additional computer programming is complete.)
 - Passenger vehicles (class 2-4) save exactly 15 percent on every toll. Larger, commercial vehicles (class 5+) save exactly 5 percent on every toll. (An 'average' savings used to be offered, now the savings is exact.)
 - No fees (monthly or annual) are associated with the new K-TAG payment options.
 - The application process, including applying through our website, is simplified.
- These changes are part of the KTA's overall effort to provide a simplified and positive customer experience to motorists traveling on the Turnpike.

Turnpike Showdown



Transportation Secretary Mike King throws out the first pitch at the June 5 Kansas City T-Bones vs. Wichita Wingnuts game in Kansas City. At left, Secretary King meets Mountain Man, from TV's Duck Dynasty, before the game begins.

District Six

Aviation day camp: The Spencer Flight and Education Center (SFEC) at the Scott City Airport hosted an aviation day camp on June 6 and more than 100 students, kindergarten through high school participated. The SFEC was built in 2012 in memory of the four members of the Dylan Spencer family of Scott City who died in a plane crash in 2011.

KDOT contributed \$81,000 through a grant for the purchase of the Redbird FMX full-motion simulator, the centerpiece of the SFEC. It is the only full-motion flight simulator between Denver and Salina and simulates various aircraft, location and weather condition setups.

Andy Hineman, one of the board members for the SFEC, also serves on the Kansas Aviation Advisory and Review Committee.



Top photo: SFEC instructor Andy Hineman, who is also on the Kansas Aviation Advisory and Review Committee, prepares to guide a convoy of golf carts through a mock-up of a major airport taxiway, as seen in the photo above. At left: an instructor guides a student in the Redbird FMX full-motion simulator as he pilots his plane in for a landing.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. About 7 miles.
2. Basket-ball, the first goals were overturned wicker baskets.
3. 32, one for each country in Europe.
4. World Cup
5. 1996.
6. Because their players were not allowed to play barefoot.

General

Plans receive recognition: Three KDOT planning studies have been recognized for excellence by two engineering associations. American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Kansas presented KDOT two Engineering Excellence Awards for plans that take a proactive look at future development and associated traffic congestion in the Kansas City area. And, the 5-County Regional Transportation Study has been selected for the 2013 KC Chapter Institute of Transportation Engineers' (KCITE) Excellence in Transportation Award. The ACEC awards were for the I-35 Corridor Optimization Plan, also known as I-35: Moving Forward, and the Southwest Johnson County Area Plan. The awards were presented on Thursday, June 19, at the June meeting of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers. The 5-County study is a multi-year effort jointly conducted by KDOT, the Mid-America Regional Council and the Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization. The award will be presented at the July meeting of KCITE in North Kansas City, Mo. The project has now been submitted to the Missouri Valley section of ITE (MOVITE) to be considered for MOVITE's Transportation Achievement Award.

District Four



Flat Rock Creek briefly became a small river following storms on June 5. The wet conditions didn't stop contractor King Construction from resuming work on the K-39 Flat Rock Creek Bridge by mid-morning. King Construction is also replacing the K-39 bridge over Paint Creek. The cost of construction for both Bourbon County bridges is approximately \$2 million. K-39 is closed at the bridge sites, with traffic following a state route detour.

CAPITOL MID-WEEK FARMERS' MARKET



TOPEKA

Every Wednesday

7:30 a.m. to noon until Oct. 15
10th Street -south side of the Statehouse grounds

Common items you can buy:

Beets, bok choy, broccoli, corn, green house produce, green onions, fresh herbs, flowers, garden plants, peas, potatoes, salad greens, spinach, radishes, rhubarb, strawberries, tomatoes, turnips, local Kansas honey, kettle corn, whole/white/wheat baked goods

District One



Major repairs are taking place on I-70 in downtown Topeka.

I-70 in downtown Topeka sees major repairs: A preservation repair project began in late May on I-70 over the Polk-Quincy Viaduct and 3rd Street and 4th Street bridges in downtown Topeka. Project work includes full and partial depth patching and overlay work on the bridge decks, expansion joint replacement and bridge pier repairs. These heavy maintenance repairs are needed to help sustain the life of these I-70 bridge structures, which were built in the 1960s. Overall project work is scheduled to be completed in December 2014. With more than 40,000 vehicles using this stretch of I-70 daily, special detour signing was added to the project to direct motorists around the downtown area on optional detour routes to ease congestion and traffic delays. A preliminary engineering project is under way to improve I-70 from MacVicar Avenue through downtown Topeka to Adams Street. There is no funding for construction of this project at this time.



Workers remove existing concrete on the Polk-Quincy Viaduct.

Traffic is reduced to one lane in each direction on this stretch of I-70. Motorists are encouraged to use alternate routes when possible.



General



Port Director Robert Portiss talks to members of the Freight Advisory Committee about the history of the Port of Catoosa during a tour in Oklahoma.

Learning about water transportation:

Secretary Mike King, along with members of the Freight Advisory Committee, traveled to Oklahoma Monday to tour the Port of Catoosa. The goal was to learn how Kansas-based industry can benefit from inland water transportation services. The group was transported by a special passenger observation train operated by WATCO's SKOL Line, which is one of two rail providers serving the port.

The Port of Catoosa is the largest and most inland seaport in the United States and the committee members used the tour to explore the possibility of using waterways as way to ship Kansas exports. Cargo loaded in Catoosa can be transported to the Port of New Orleans then transferred to any seaport in the world without ever touching land again.

During their tour they learned that the port has an economic impact of \$300 million to Oklahoma with customers sending and receiving more than 2.2 million tons of cargo per year by barge, rail and truck. One barge alone can hold as much freight as 15 rail cars or 60 truckloads, it is estimated that bulk freight can be moved by barge for a third of the cost of railroads and a



Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger, center, visits with Steve Hawks and David Yarbrough of the Port of Catoosa.

fifth of the cost of trucks.

The members heard from the Port Authority, WATCO, BNSF and the Oklahoma DOT on how the region can benefit by a regionalized approach to freight corridors. "Our trip to the Port of Catoosa was beneficial in learning how this mode of transportation can benefit our already great highway and short line rail system in Kansas," Secretary King said.

District Four

Featured employee: Pittsburg Area Superintendent Wayne Nelson was featured in a Pittsburg Morning Sun article, "Patrick's People," a regular column that highlights local people as well as their professions and hobbies. Nelson has responded to numerous emergency situations, both as a KDOT employee and as a member of the U.S. Army Kansas National Guard. To read the full article, go to goo.gl/SrdVSS.



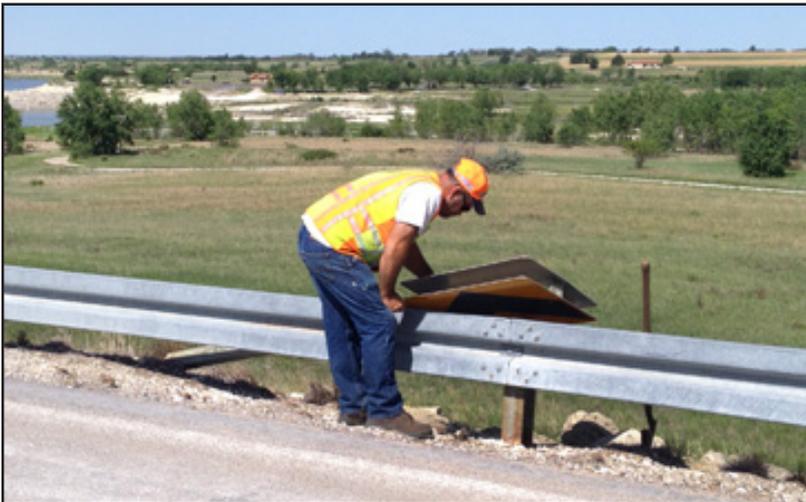
Wayne Nelson

Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of Translines Express? Please e-mail your suggestions to translines@ksdot.org

District Three



Stockton Subarea crew members Robert Winters (also in photo below), Stephen Martin, Cash Baxter and Larry Dobson put signs up along K-258 after winds of nearly 100 mph and two tornadoes hit near Webster Lake and north of Stockton on June 14.



Middle right: the flag pole was bent along U.S. 24 in Stockton. Left: utility poles were leaning along K-18 near Plainville. Above: camping trailers and other equipment flipped over at Webster Lake.

District Four



Project design leader Steve Rockers (standing at right) explains proposed changes in the U.S. 166 expansion during a June 19 meeting at Galena. The changes include: expanding U.S. 400/166 to four lanes between U.S. 400 and K-26; adding an overpass/underpass on 90th Street between U.S. 400 and K-26; transitioning back to existing U.S. 166 north of Prairie Road; and adding turn lanes to Prairie Road as an at-grade intersection. KDOT worked with the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, the cities of Baxter Springs, Columbus, Galena and Parsons, and Cherokee, Crawford and Labette counties to develop the project. Construction is expected to start in 2017.

Headquarters



Eileen Hawley, Director of Communications and Press Secretary for Gov. Brownback, spoke to the KDOT/KTA communicators team on June 17 at KDOT headquarters. Hawley spoke about messaging in the governor's office and at NASA's Johnson Space Center where she was the 'voice of mission control' for more than 40 space shuttle and space station missions. Listening to the presentation from left are (first row) Amy Link, Kim Qualls, Kristy Kelly, Kirk Hutchinson, Martin Miller, (second row) Jeri Biehler, Jennifer Szambecki, Rachel Bell and Tara Mays.