

U.S. DOT



Secretary King met with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx on Tuesday during a trip to Washington, D.C. The two secretaries discussed national transportation policies involving freight planning, performance measures and distracted driving. Secretary King shared the accomplishments of Kansas transportation and his vision for the future. Secretary King also handed out copies of KDOT's quarterly report and collaborated on how Kansas can continue to have a role in strategic partnerships with the U.S. DOT.

District One

No more bridge: After a big blast at 10:30 p.m. on July 26, the existing Homestead Lane Bridge over I-35 in Johnson County was no more. Crews demolished the bridge to finish two new bridges at Kansas' first diverging diamond interchange. I-35 from 175th Street to K-33 was closed to traffic overnight to remove debris. The interchange is scheduled to open this fall. To see a video of the demolition, go to <http://youtu.be/MkLSvcuCUXs>.

Smart work zone: Work on Kansas' first diverging diamond interchange brings another first - KDOT launched a temporary traffic system - the I-35 Smart Work Zone Traffic System on Monday for motorists in the project area. The system has message signs, cameras, speed sensors and variable speed limit signs to monitor traffic flow and advise drivers of potential delays. To get real-time traffic information through this system, go to <http://goo.gl/PNKF76>.



Flooding

Equipment Operator Richard Eggers barricades K-4 south of Gypsum. See more flooding photos at the end of this edition.

Example of Excellence



Congratulations to the Headquarters and District One employees who delivered a cost-effective solution to an erosion/scour problem that could have potentially threatened a bridge pier foundation. They provided stream-bank stabilization and slope protection by designing and building a revetment using large rock rip-rap. For their efforts, they were honored as an Example of Excellence for the second quarter of 2013. Secretary King made the presentation in Atchison on July 30. Nominations for the third quarter are due Sept. 30.

District One



Secretary King chats with (from left) Edgerton City Administrator Beth Linn, Edgerton Mayor Donald Roberts and Gardner Mayor Chris Morrow at the July 31 ribbon-cutting ceremony of the Big Bull Creek Wastewater Treatment Facility in southern Johnson County.



Secretary King visits with members of the Speaker Road Subarea crew in Kansas City, Kan., during his District One summer tour last week.

Trivia!

1. Name up to four common health dangers exposed by Kansas physician Dr. Samuel J. Crumrine, the father of public health.
2. Kansas had numerous cattle towns, but six of them were considered the most important – name as many as you can.
3. What object did Carry A. Nation use in her fight to stop Kansans from drinking alcohol?
4. Immigrants came to Kansas from all over the world following the Civil War. Name as many of the top six countries as you can.

Heat Stroke

Don't get overheated: The KDOT public affairs team participated in a day-long social media event July 31 promoting heat stroke awareness. From 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. every hour on the hour information was tweeted with the hashtag #HeatStroke about the dangers of heat stroke. The national effort was organized by Safe Kids Worldwide and NHTSA.

PIGrid

New binding material: According to an article in Better Roads, smooth roads in the U.S. may come from an unlikely source - pig poop. PIGrid (pronounced like 'hybrid') is a green initiative to convert hog manure into a binding material for asphalt, which is also significantly less expensive. Compared to petroleum-based binders that cost about \$2 per gallon, hog waste can be converted into a longer lasting binder at only 50-cents per gallon. Elham Fini, an assistant professor of civil engineering from NC A&T State University is working directly with hog farmers and the construction industry to finalize details for the launch of PIGrid within the next 12 to 18 months. - See more at <http://goo.gl/KKFIIN>

District Three



Above, Phillipsburg Construction Utility Worker Sara Schurz (daughter of Area One employees Engineering Technician Senior Linda Schurz and Equipment Operator Walter Schurz) inspects a portion of the paving of 21 miles of K-18 and U.S. 183 in Rooks County last week.

At left, Engineering Technician Mark Moreno, with the Hays construction office, takes a density reading using a nuclear density meter along the project to mill and overlay K-18 in Rooks County. The \$1.8 million job starts at the Graham County line and extends east to the U.S. 183 Junction. The project also includes a mill and inlay of U.S. 183 from the south city limits of Plainville north to the K-18 junction.

District Two



Work to remove the remains of the eastbound I-70 bridge continues at the K-43 junction.

I-70 construction: Fourteen miles of I-70 in Dickinson County are receiving a mill and overlay in addition to bridge improvements.

Local rains have slowed progress on the project but traffic should be moved entirely to the westbound lanes sometime next week while the east bound lanes are closed for construction until late fall. Next spring, traffic will switch so work can take place on the westbound lanes.

District Three



KDOT employees Rick Hinderliter and Derek Surber conduct a geology survey along U.S. 281 in Russell County to gather information for the upcoming modernization project.

District Four



In the photo above, from left to right, Tim Shallenburger of Gov. Brownback's office, Sen. Jake LaTurner, Secretary Mike King and Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger look at a map of study alignments for the U.S. 166/U.S. 400 corridor project while near Galena. In the photo below, from left to right, Rep. Richard Proehl, Governmental Affairs Office Chief Lindsey Douglas, District Four Engineer Wayne Gudmonson and Area Engineer George Dockery review right of way impacts on property along the K-7 project in southeast Kansas. On both these projects, local stakeholders requested input from KDOT staff to help address concerns they had on the upcoming work.



ANSWERS

1. Common drinking cups, house flies, roller towels, spitting in public
2. Abilene, Newton, Ellsworth, Wichita, Dodge City, Caldwell
3. A hatchet
4. Sweden, England, Germany, Bohemia, Russia, Mexico

KDOT/KTA

Message from Secretary King to KDOT/KTA staffs:

I wanted to follow-up and thank everyone at both KDOT and KTA for your participation in the collaboration survey. We received over 1,200 responses and I want to assure you that your thoughts and suggestions were heard.

With that, I want to take a moment to clarify just a few of the concerns that surfaced near the top of the list in the survey results. At this time there are no comprehensive plans for changes in benefits - including health coverage, wages, retirement and paid time off - for current KTA employees. Meanwhile KDOT is offering to employees some incentives to address some of our most pressing pay issues – pay compression, recruitment, and retention. In addition, I want to assure staff at both KDOT and KTA that while this

formalized partnership is designed to create efficiencies in operations, those will not come at the expense of current employees' positions. There are no plans to make large-scale changes in staffing at either KDOT or KTA.

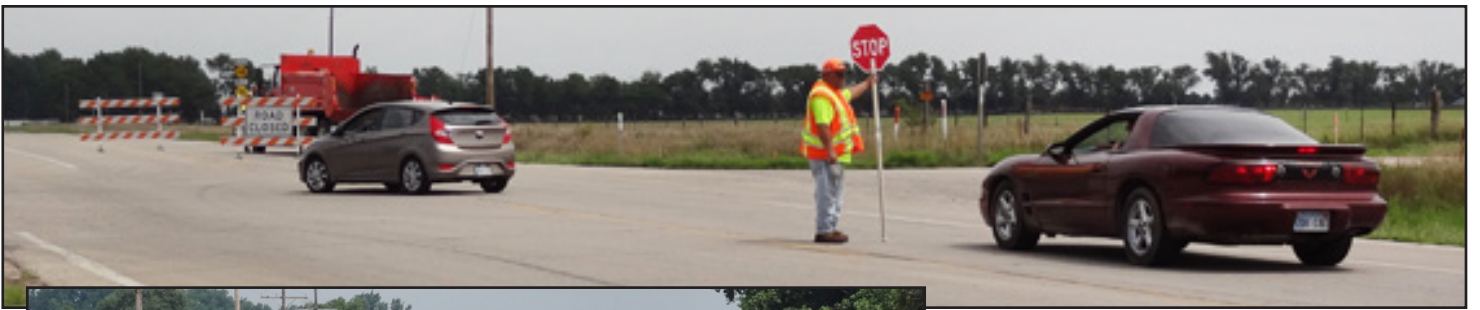
While we are still in the early stages of evaluating all of the data and insights gleaned from the collaboration survey, it is clear that both KDOT and KTA employees want to be informed of the progress. I will continue to update you regarding implementation of this initiative.

I truly appreciate your thoughts and recommendations on ways we can work together to continue to provide the best system for travelers in our state, whether they're on the turnpike or our state transportation network. Thank you again for your participation.

Flooding



Above, K-4 south of Gypsum in southern Saline County was closed last week due to the huge amount of water covering this section of highway. At left, Equipment Operator Senior Jim Adee monitors the flood waters along K-4.



Above, Equipment Operator Senior Robert Revel II flags traffic along K-14/K-96. A section of the highway flooded earlier last week between Sterling and Lyons, as seen as left. Below, geese take advantage of flooding just off the highway.

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



Sections of K-99 in Lyons County were flooded earlier this week as shown in the photos above and at left. In the upper left photo, the old K-99 bridge, known as Soden's Grove Bridge, is close to having water over the deck.