

Translines EXPRESS

Aug. 21, 2013

Quarterly Report

District Six



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For the quarter ending June 2013

World-class roads
 Kansas' roads have long been considered among the nation's best and a couple studies released this summer support that contention. The Reason Foundation rated the Kansas highway system the nation's second best while spending 24 percent less than the U.S. average in per-mile disbursements. Kansas ranked number three in Reason's previous two reports. A CNBC analysis ranked Kansas' infrastructure transportation fourth-best in the country. The CNBC ranking was part of a study of the best states for doing business. (Overall, the Kansas was rated the 14th best state for business.) In 2010, a Reader's Digest report ranked Kansas roads the nation's best.



The new Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge in Atchison is adorned with blue and green lights at the end of the Amelia Earhart Festival in July. This photo was submitted by Benedictine College Associate Professor Dennis Duntzky.

KDOT and KTA partnership under way
 As of July 1, KDOT and the Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) now fall under the same umbrella. Mike King will serve both as KDOT Secretary and KTA director. Staff from KDOT and KTA gathered in Topeka on July 23 for initial group discussions of how the two agencies will work together to produce savings and efficiencies. The group broke into six "innovation teams" to focus on topics ranging from revenues and expenditures to operations and maintenance. The groups will meet individually over the remainder of the year to develop a "one focus" innovation plan that will be rolled out in December.

TWORKS
 The table below shows how much work will begin this quarter, and how much has been completed so far in the program.

Starting this Quarter	Total Complete
Lettings \$157 M	\$1.4 B
Projects 139	741
Miles of work 958	5,834
Bridges 68	340
Modal \$9 M	\$55 M

Update on spending, operations: A quarterly report that provides an easy-to-read update on KDOT and the T-WORKS transportation program has been initiated by KDOT.

The newest report includes a regional breakdown of construction lettings scheduled for this quarter, a summary of winter storm costs, a graphic presentation of KDOT revenue sources and where the money goes, and a status report on the "\$8 million promise." Under the 10-year T-WORKS program, every Kansas county is promised a minimum of \$8 million in transportation spending.

"This publication is modeled after business reports and is a quick way for Kansans to learn how and where their transportation dollars are being spent," said Transportation Secretary Mike King.

The report can be viewed on the KDOT website www.ksdot.org under "Projects/Publications."



Out with the old, in with the new: As seen in the photos above and below, a mill and overlay project is under way on U.S. 50 and U.S. 50 Business in Garden City. The project is part of a series of resurfacing projects in and around Garden City that has included a mill and overlay on K-156 and putting an ultra-thin bonded asphalt surface on U.S. 83 and the Garden City Bypass. The group of projects cost about \$2.5 million to resurface roadways that carry a combined 37,000 vehicles a day. This follows a \$2.3 million project completed earlier this year to widen and improve the intersection of the Garden City Bypass and Schulman Avenue in support of a multi-million dollar retail development project.



Traffic Safety

Powerful anti-texting message: AT&T's national anti-texting/driving campaign ("It Can Wait") has gained an unlikely but powerful advocate – legendary filmmaker Werner Herzog. Earlier this month, Herzog, whose films include "Grizzly Man," "Bad Lieutenant" and "Nosferatu the Vampyre," produced a 35-minute short titled, "From One Second to the Next." The film tells the haunting stories of victims and their families, and perpetrators of four unrelated texting-caused crashes.

"What AT&T proposed immediately clicked and connected inside of me," said the 70-year-old German film icon. "There's a completely new culture out there. I'm not a participant of texting and driving -- or texting at all -- but I see there's something going on in civilization which is coming with great vehemence at us." Click on this link <http://goo.gl/P6SMdS> to see the film posted on YouTube.

District Four



District Four Office Manager Mike Bright (yellow shirt) conducts a public land auction of the rest area located on U.S.75 north of Neodesha. The eight-acre site included parking space and picnic shelters in addition to the restroom facilities. The auction took place Tuesday and included several potential bidders. The winning bid of \$17,000 was made by a couple who plan to convert the rest area to a residence. The Neodesha rest area cost KDOT more than \$22,000 to maintain in 2012.



Numerous resurfacing projects have been completed or are under way in southeast Kansas. Allen Stinson, left, a summer intern with Pittsburg Construction, inspects an overlay operation on U.S. 59 as the northbound crew enters Chetopa. The overlay followed a 12-mile surface recycle on U.S. 59 from the Oklahoma-Kansas state border north to Oswego. APAC Missouri Inc. was the contractor on the \$1.5 million T-WORKS preservation project.

District Five



Secretary Mike King, left, discusses ideas with Rep. Jack Thimesch, right, about the entrance from the new U.S. 54 interchange (in background) and the City of Cunningham. Also pictured are District Engineer Benny Tarverdi, Area Engineer Scott Mullen and Local Projects Chief Ron Seitz.



Above, Rubbermaid Senior Technical Services Manager Larry Rohr, right, gives Seitz, Tarverdi and Secretary King a tour of Rubbermaid in Winfield. At left, Secretary King speaks to KDOT employees at the Kingman Subarea.

It's a wrap: Secretary Mike King wrapped up his district summer tour after visiting District Five last week. Secretary King made a goal of visiting all 110 subareas during his first two years in office, so far in 2013 he has visited 50 subareas, and during 2012 he visited 35. All of which are marked on a map in his office. Secretary King made it a goal to get out and visit with what he calls the front line employees, the 1,800 employees who are in the field.

"It gives me a firsthand look at all of the opportunities and challenges of our employees as well as allowing me to share the vision of KDOT," Secretary King said. "I was asked great questions as well as difficult and tough questions and I hope I was able to respond to all of them."

The tours also gave Secretary King the chance to get to know the districts, the district engineers and the terrain of different parts of Kansas better. Traveling the state gives him a chance to see how respected KDOT is for their cooperative efforts on projects by their interaction with local, city, county and state agencies.

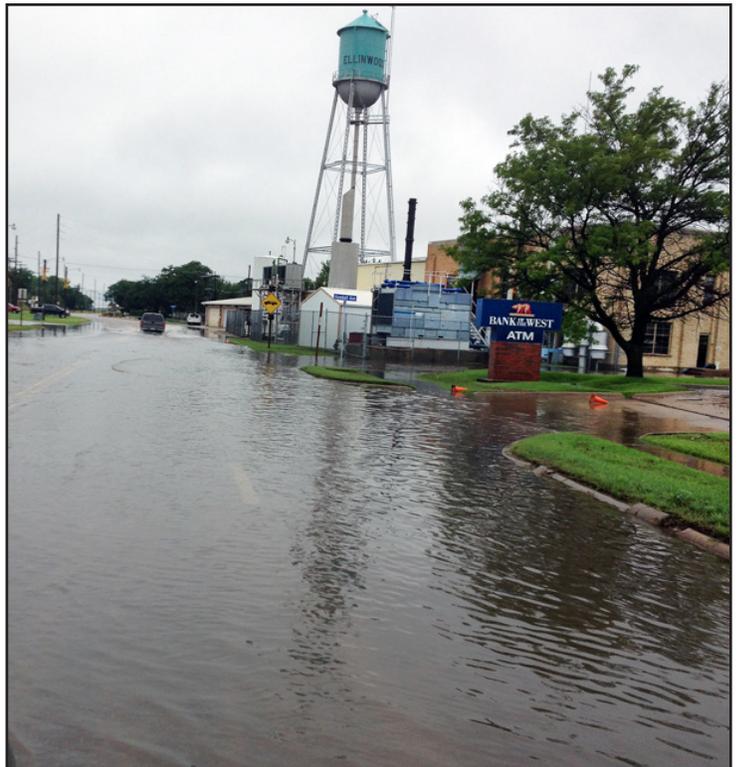
"I wanted to show appreciation on what we do in rural areas as well as the congested areas," King said. "I'm looking forward to getting to the remaining subareas as soon as I can."

"I love traveling in Kansas. I saw great tourism sites, great restaurants and most importantly got to meet great people, our employees, stakeholders, businesses and the industry that we serve."

Flooding



Flooding around Kansas has continued recently as can be seen above on K-27 in northern Morton County and below on U.S. 56 in Ellinwood.



Trivia!

Kansas Byways -

1. What kind of rock does the Native Stone Scenic Byway feature?
2. How many National Scenic Byways does Kansas have and what are the names?
3. Along what byway will you find Kansas' Red Hills?
4. What are the two wetland regions that are part of Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway?
5. Which two Kansas Byways are in the Flint Hills?
6. Five byways feature famous rock structures or the rock in the ground, name as many as you can.

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 One



Last Saturday, the Turner Diagonal to the eastbound I-70 bridge ramp in Kansas City was damaged and closed to traffic when it was struck by a dump truck. The bridge was inspected and was able to be opened to one lane of traffic on Monday. Inspections and repairs will continue until the project is finished in early October.

KC Scout



A construction crew recently installed a Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) on I-35 near Gardner. Two signs, as well as cameras and speed detectors, are an expansion of the KC Scout system on I-35 between Olathe and Edgerton. The new devices will allow KC Scout to assist in incident management and provide better traveler information when traffic volumes increase due to the Kansas City Intermodal Facility coming online.

ANSWERS

1. Limestone that was formed from the sediments of shallow seas more than 240 million years ago.
2. Two, Flint Hills National Scenic Byway and Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway
3. Gypsum Hills

4. Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge
5. Flint Hills and Native Stone
6. Flint Hills, Native Stone, Post Rock, Prairie Trail (Mushroom Rock state park) and Western Vistas (Monument Rocks).