

Glossary



GLOSSARY

Advanced Construction (AC): Authorization of Advanced Construction (AC) is a procedure that allows the State to designate a project as eligible for future federal funds while proceeding with the construction of a project using state funds. The designation of AC on a project(s), reserves the right of the State to use federal funding at a later time when federal apportionment and obligation authority is available. Projects authorized as AC are the financial responsibility of the State until the State has available federal apportionment and obligation authority and has received approval from FHWA to convert the AC project(s) to federal funding. The conversion of a project allows project costs including costs already incurred and paid using State funds to be reimbursed with federal funds. The total amount of projects that may be designated as AC is limited to the State's current unobligated balance of apportionments plus the amount of Federal funds anticipated in the three subsequent fiscal years of an approved STIP.

Apportionment: Term used to describe the annual distribution of funds among the states based on formula as provided in law and authorized by Congress. This distribution of funds is divided into categories that include National Highway System (NHS), Surface Transportation Program (STP) and Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation, among others.

At-Grade Crossing: Intersection of two roadways or a highway and a railroad at the same grade.

Cash-Flow Worksheet: The Cash-Flow Worksheet quantifies the projected incoming and outgoing cash in the agency for a period time. This tool allows KDOT to monitor and anticipate the timing of cash inflows and outflows. Through this monitoring, the agency ensures that sufficient funds are on hand for daily business and that excess funds are invested to achieve the most return possible.

City Connecting Link (KLINK): A city street that connects two rural portions of state highway. Normally a city is responsible for maintaining the connecting link. KDOT reimburses the city based on a lane-mile rate established by law for maintenance. In small cities, the Secretary may enter into an agreement to maintain the City Connecting Link in lieu of payments. KDOT maintains all City Connecting Links, which have full access control, such as the Interstate.

Condition Rating: The condition of a bridge element, member, or component is evaluated for its current physical state and compared to the as-built (new) condition. Ratings range from 9 - new condition to 0 - failed condition.

Consensus Estimating Group (CEG): A group of individuals that work jointly to provide estimates for State General Fund receipts. The group is composed of staff from State agencies including the Department of Revenue, Division of Budget, and Legislative research and several consulting economist.

Construction Work Phase: Phase of work for KDOT construction projects where the contractor awarded the project combined with the agency's own forces construct the project in accordance with the plans and specifications developed in the design phase.

Culvert: Generally a drainage structure constructed beneath an embankment. Box sections, pipes, and arches are examples of various culvert shapes.

Deck: That portion of a bridge which provides direct support of and the riding surface for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. The deck distributes traffic and deck weight loads to the superstructure elements.

Expansion: Program of projects that add to the existing system (new lanes and interchanges). Expansion projects enhance driving by relieving congestion and improving access, enhance economic development, and substantially improve safety.

Expenditures: the anticipated expenses against available revenues (funding sources) for the agency.

Expressway: Generally a four-lane divided highway with partial access control.

Federal Lands Highway Program (FLH): a program designed to provide transportation related services for planning, design, construction and rehabilitation of the roadways and bridges that provide access in federally owned lands.

Federal Fund Exchange Program: A voluntary program that allows a local public agency (LPA) to exchange all or a portion of their federal fund allocation in a specific federal fiscal year with the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for state transportation dollars or with another LPA for the LPA's local funds.

Fiscal Constraint: a state where the demand on total available funding for a specified period (e.g. a fiscal year) does not exceed the funding available in that period.

Freeway: Generally a four-lane divided highway with full access control.

Geometric Improvement: A project that includes roadway improvements other than a surface treatment, such as shoulder and lane widening, curb and gutter, or roadway alignment.

Highway Revenue Estimating Group (HREG): a group of individuals that prepare forecasts for the motor vehicle fees and motor fuels tax anticipated to be collected and prepare growth estimates for long-term revenues in the State. The group is composed of staff from State agencies including Department of Revenue, Legislative Research, Division of the Budget and KDOT.

Let: Advertise and award of a contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

Local Construction: Program of projects on county and city roads.

Local Public Agency (LPA): term to describe any political subdivision of the State like a county, city, town, township or other local public agencies with authority to finance, build, operate, or maintain transportation facilities.

Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP): a guide to future transportation development in the state that identifies important transportation-related issues and provides focus for future programs and actions.

Maintenance Quality Assurance Program (MQA): a tool that assists management in prioritizing routine maintenance projects and resources (personnel, equipment, materials and funding) and helps determine funding needs.

Managing Kansas' Roadsides (MKR): guidance for mowing activities across the State that provides mowing recommendations based on existing site factors like location -rural versus urbanized area, line of sights and slopes.

Managing Snow & Ice (MS&I): provides guidance for the removal of snow and ice on state highways. The guidance divides State roads into three levels of service based upon traffic count; and each of the three levels has specific treatment and plowing recommendations.

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): a planning organization that FHWA statutes require for urbanized areas with populations over 50,000. The organization is a transportation policy-making body whose representatives are local government and transportation agencies that are within the metropolitan planning area boundaries.

Modernization: Program of projects to improve the safety of the existing highway system. Roadway projects in this program include shoulder improvements, flattening hills, straightening curves, and improving intersections.

Obligation Limitation: The total amount of apportioned funds which a state may commit to contract within a given time period (normally a federal fiscal year). This limitation on the amount of Federal-aid a state can utilize has been used in recent years as a budgetary tool by Congress.

Pavement Management System (PMS): A comprehensive program of data gathering and analysis used by KDOT to select surface preservation locations and actions. The system can be used to determine actions to achieve the best statewide pavement surface conditions possible using available funds or alternatively to determine the minimum cost to achieve a given level of performance.

Preliminary Engineering Work Phase: Phase of work for KDOT construction projects where all work necessary to advance a project from the concept stage to award of a construction contract is done. The work performed includes surveying, scoping, geology, planning studies, developing alternatives, environmental documentation, public involvement, project design and development necessary to produce all project construction plans and contract documents.

Preservation: Program of projects designed to protect the investment in the State Highway System by preserving existing roadways and bridges. Work in this program includes road and bridge overlays, bridge rehabilitation, repairs or replacements, bridge painting, roadway conventional seals and crack repairs, pavement marking, and signing and lighting repairs.

Priority System: The system of formulas used to rank improvement projects. The formulas, two for roads (one for Interstate and one for non-interstate) and one for bridges are comprised of a number of characteristics that measure the relative need for improvement.

Public Transit: provides sources of transportation for the transport of persons with disabilities, elderly persons and the public.

Reconstruction: Type of improvement designed to replace the existing roadway or bridge when it has reached the end of its useful life. Often, reconstruction is accompanied by improvements to the functional and operational capacity of the highway.

Recreational Trails Program (RTP): a federal program to provide funds to States for the development and maintenance of trails and trail- related facilities that are for leisure related activities like hiking, biking, snowmobiling etc.

Rehabilitation: Type of improvement designed to preserve and extend the service life and enhance the safety of an existing roadway or bridge when total replacement is not warranted.

Retroreflectivity: Light reflected back to the driver's eye from pavement marking or signing reflective material.

Revenues: Anticipated sources of funding or cash available for agency use.

Rideability: A measure of the smoothness and riding characteristics of a road surface.

Right of Way Work Phase: Phase of work for KDOT construction projects where the land necessary for an improvement is determined and then acquired.

Route Classification System: A detailed classification system which groups all State Highway routes into five levels as follows:

Class A - The Interstate System.

Class B - Routes that serve as the most important statewide and Interstate corridors for travel.

Class C - Defined as arterials, these routes are closely integrated with Class A and B routes in service to all of the State.

Class D - These routes provide access to arterials and serve small urban areas not on a Class A, B, or C route, or access to county seat cities.

Class E - Primarily used for local service only, these routes are typified by very short trips.

Separation Structure: A bridge that separates the grades of two or more intersecting roadways or a highway and a railroad.

Set Aside: A program of state funds reserved for a specific purpose.

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP): At the minimum, a program listing all federally funded transportation projects proposed in a four-year period in the state. The State of Kansas STIP is a program of projects based upon the state's Long Range Transportation Plan and T-WORKS, the state transportation program authorized by the Kansas legislature. All proposed projects currently programmed for the four-year period regardless of funding (state, local and federal) are included. MPO projects are included by reference of the MPO's current TIPs.

Subcategory: Subdivisions within KDOT's four programs that further group projects. These groups are composed of similar projects that share the same or similar work types and under which similar work is being performed.

Substructure: The abutments, piers, or other constructed bridge elements built to support the span of a bridge superstructure. The substructure transfers loads from the superstructure to the foundation soil or rock.

Superstructure: The entire portion of a bridge structure that primarily receives and supports traffic loads transmitted through the bridge deck. The superstructure carries these loads across the span and then transfers them to the bridge substructure.

Surface Preservation: Projects designed to preserve the "as built" condition of roadways. This work can include a variety of actions including overlay, milling, crack repair, patching, edge drains, or mudjacking.

Surface Reconstruction: Projects designed to replace only the existing surface of a roadway whose geometric characteristics meet current standards.

Traffic Guidance: as used in the MQA program, all KDOT maintained signs, pavement markings, striping or anything used to regulate, warn or guide traffic.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP): a program that documents how a MPO prioritizes their limited transportation resources among the needs in their area. The program includes a list of transportation projects proposed for federal, state and local funding within the MPO area.

Travelway: as used in the MQA program, is the portion of the roadway for the movement of vehicles.

Utility Work Phase: Phase of work for KDOT construction projects used to coordinate the necessary utility relocations for an improvement and then implemented the changes so the project may be let for construction in a timely manner.