

South Central District Office
500 N. Hendricks
Hutchinson, KS 67504-0769



phone: 620-663-3361
fax: 620-663-1804
www.ksdot.org

Julie Lorenz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 23, 2020

For more information: Tim Potter

620-860-7389; mobile: 620-727-2278; Tim.Potter@ks.gov

Greensburg's Norman Unruh is retiring from KDOT after 43 years

In two key ways, Norman Unruh is a model of consistency.

For almost 43 years, Norman has worked for KDOT, out of the Greensburg shop.

And after a devastating tornado in 2007 destroyed most of Greensburg, the town where he was born and raised, tore off the roof of his home and shook the walls, he and his wife didn't move away. They rebuilt.

But after more than four decades, the Equipment Operator Senior is retiring from KDOT. The official date is Oct. 2.

"It's been," and he pauses, laughing, "needless to say, it's been interesting."

That's almost 43 years of mowing, patching pavement, doing shoulder work, flagging and plowing snow on U.S. 54 and other highways maintained by the Greensburg Subarea. He says he has always liked the variety of the work.

Norman started with KDOT in Greensburg in November 1977. Since then, "Our equipment really has come up from what it was," he says.

"And I met a lot of nice folks ... best job I've ever had. It's helped me maintain a family life."

Klete Hackney, Norman's supervisor, says: "Norman is an asset to the Greensburg Subarea and the agency. I've been Norman's supervisor for nine years, and his dedication to myself and the agency is one of his many attributes. His knowledge and experience that spans 43 years will be sorely missed upon his retirement."

After he retires, Norman says, he plans to enjoy camping, woodworking and time with his family. He and his wife, Marcia, have two children: Chris and Esther.

“I’m not going to just sit idle,” he says.

But Norman adds: “I might sit a little more idle this winter,” and then he breaks into a laugh.

For the first time in 43 years, he realizes, he won’t be called out for snow and ice work.

####

This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the KDOT Division of Communications,
700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

Click below to connect to KDOT’s Social Networks:

