

EN ROUTE TO FRIDAY

Feb. 19,
2021

The road to staying connected

KDOT awards \$13.5 million in Transportation Alternatives projects

**FY22
and
FY23**

**KANSAS
TRANSPORTATION
ALTERNATIVE
PROJECTS**

18 Projects

were selected to help strengthen Kansas' bike/ped infrastructure and provide historical, environmental and beautification improvements in communities.

\$13.5 MILLION

of the federal Transportation Alternatives funds will be spread across these projects.



Gov. Laura Kelly joined Secretary Julie Lorenz and Kansas Wildlife Parks and Tourism Secretary Brad Loveless on Thursday morning in Ottawa to announce \$13.5 million for 18 projects selected for inclusion in the Transportation Alternatives (TA) program for Federal Fiscal Years 2022-23.

“Strong proposals addressed safety, access and connectivity” said Jenny Kramer, KDOT State Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator. “Applicants demonstrated an understanding of federal requirements, project readiness and had good past performance.

KDOT received 35 applications from eligible project sponsors requesting over \$50 million in federal funds.

KDOT evaluated each application and made selections based on criteria developed using input from various departments and external partners such as safety and network improvements, cost estimates, project readiness, public support and other factors.

Each project sponsor committed to providing at least 20% of the cost of the project as a local cash match.

Watch the recorded announcement video [here](#).

Cold weather changes strategy for removing snow and ice



*By Tim Potter,
District Five Public Affairs Manager*

District Five – hard hit by ongoing snow and extreme cold – has had to adapt because of extremely low temperatures.

“During this storm, we’ve changed our whole method of dealing with storms,” said District Maintenance Engineer Dave Bohnenblust.

District Five normally uses brine, beet juice and salt to melt snow and ice and to get the surfaces to dry.

But in this extreme cold, with temperatures in the single digits and below 0, those materials only cause

any melting precipitation to re-freeze on the road, making things worse, Bohnenblust said.

Adding to that, any blowing snow collecting on the materials would melt and freeze. Also, brine freezes at around minus 5 degrees, and brine freezing in a spreader would damage the equipment, he said.

Without those materials, crews resorted to plowing what they could. Some of the dry, light snow just blows across the highways; in other places, it drifted onto highways and kept snow plows busy.

In some instances, District Five crews spread sand to aid traction, he said.

Kansas Active Transportation Plan hosts online public meetings

Online Public Meetings

Kansas Active Transportation Plan



KDOT is continuing to develop the Kansas Active Transportation Plan (KATP). Kansans can stay involved by attending online public meetings to share their thoughts about the draft vision and goals for active transportation and more.

The meetings began this week and will continue until Feb. 25. See the schedule of online public meetings [here](#). The same information will be presented at each meeting.

Follow the KATP’s Facebook page [here](#).

Oh, can't you see? Windshield wiper safety tips

Oh, can't you see? Windshield safety tips:

- Check blades often for wear and tear.
- Replace every six months.
- Check wiper fluid often and use the correct solution per season.
- When it snows, pull wipers up.
- Wipers on, headlights on.



Information provided by Safety Division Director Troy Whitworth

Picture this: You're driving down the road and a messy spray of melting snow or ice flings off the car's tires in front of you and guess where it lands – right in the middle of your windshield.

You immediately push the windshield spray washer lever and engage the wiper/washer combo to clean it off - at least you hope.

Most highway workers have experienced all types of wiper/washer problems. Snow and slush coming

off the plow can build up under the wiper blades, possibly damaging the blades and the wiper motor.

Things to do to help you see clearly include:

- Check blades often for wear and tear.
- Replace blades every six months.
- Check wiper fluid often and use the correct solution per season.
- When it snows, pull wipers up.
- Wipers on, headlights on.

It's important to keep your windshield clear at all times; for your family and mine.

KDOT KUDOS!

