Secretary Lorenz named Vice President of MAASTO

Secretary Julie Lorenz has been elected Vice President of the Mid-America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) for the 2020-21 term.

MAASTO is one of the four geographic regions of the country involved in the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) which publishes specifications, tests standards and tests functions and guidelines used in highway construction and design.

“Secretary Lorenz is an experienced leader who understands how transportation systems of Midwest states work,” said MAASTO President Craig Thompson. “She will do a great job of helping MAASTO members combine their perspectives and expertise to help address our shared transportation challenges.”

After the first year, Secretary Lorenz will succeed Thompson and serve as President of MAASTO for the 21-22 term.
Part of KDOT’s commitment to moving Kansas FORWARD means that the agency remains dedicated to finishing the remaining T-WORKS projects -- as long as funding remains available. Last week two groundbreaking ceremonies for projects in Seward and Russell counties took place.

Secretary Julie Lorenz joined Liberal Chamber of Commerce CEO Rozelle Webb, State Rep. Shannon Francis and District 6 Engineer Ron Hall at the U.S. 54 delayed T-WORKS groundbreaking ceremony. The project expands three miles of U.S. 54 from two-lanes to a four-lane divided limited access expressway.

“Agriculture is the economic engine of this county and more broadly this region – and we recognize that we need a transportation system that’s modernized to support larger equipment and increased truck traffic associated with it,” said Secretary Lorenz. “This project will alleviate congestion and improve safety.”


"Under FORWARD we will make sure the remaining delayed T-WORKS projects, like phase two of this one, are at the front of the line for being completed," Secretary Lorenz said.

You can check out a video featuring three T-WORKS projects [here](#):
Secretary Lorenz speaks to 125 attendees at JOCO Day

"On Wednesday, Secretary Lorenz had the chance to speak to 125 attendees at the Johnson County Leadership Government Day. Secretary Lorenz provided information on KDOT and an update on FORWARD.

Transit Day at the Capitol

Transit providers had a chance to share their recent accomplishments during Transit Day at the Capitol on Tuesday. Legislators in attendance also had the opportunity to hear how important public transit is for the state.

In addition, more than $7.4 million was awarded to 33 transit projects across the state as part of KDOT's new Access, Innovation, and Collaboration program. More than 10 million urban and rural transit rides are provided annually in Kansas.

“Transportation is the supporting fiber of our lives – and too often – we assume that always means driving a car,” said KDOT Deputy
Secretary Maggie Doll. “But thousands of Kansans do not have access to a car, are unable to drive or would prefer not to. That’s why I’m pleased that our new transportation program, FORWARD, retains the annual funding commitments to all modes of transportation including transit, bicycle and pedestrian paths, aviation and rail.”

You can read the rest of the story [here](#): Check out the map below for the project locations:

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**Tech Tip: OneDrive is here!**

A new online tool will make it easy to collaborate, manage and share your documents from anywhere and any device. Use OneDrive as the primary place for secure file storage, syncing and sharing. It’s easy to use and
flexible enough so different groups can organize OneDrive to suit their needs.

One Drive gives you:
- Access to your files at any time, from anywhere on your favorite devices
- Ability to share internally and externally
- Easy co-authoring without the hassle of versioning
- Seamless integration with your favorite Office apps
- Trusted security features you can rely on
- Quickly find files with intelligent recommendations based on what you are working on and who you are working with.
- A fast, intuitive browser and mobile PC and Mac experience

*Note: If you do not have 24/7 access, you will only be able to use OneDrive during your allowed logon times.*

If you have any questions called the EBIT service Desk at (785) 296-4999 or EBITSM@Ks.gov

**Aviation Day at the Capitol**

On Thursday, KDOT celebrated Aviation Day at the Capitol, with Governor Laura Kelly speaking at the event.

State Transportation Engineer Burt Morey said that under FORWARD, we will retain our annual investment of $5 million to improve airports and expand access to air ambulance service.

“We will also look for ways to deliver more holistic solutions to transportation problems, for example sometimes to increase air ambulance access — you need to extend a runway and improve the highway connected to the airport,” Morey said.

**Safety Tips to help make the workplace healthier**

During this time, KDOT asks that employees who
are feeling sick should stay home. Here are some tips on how to maintain a healthier work environment.

**Tips for a healthier work environment:**
- Employees should cover their noses and mouths with a tissue when coughing or sneezing, (or elbow or shoulder if a tissue is not available)
- Wipe down surfaces often
- Wash your hands often
- Avoid touching your face
- Create a cool hand signal to replace handshakes

In addition, Employees should notify their supervisor and stay home if they are sick.

KDOT will not require a healthcare provider’s note for employees who are sick with acute respiratory illness to validate their illness to return to work. Some doctor’s may recommend that you stay home and allow the virus to take its course and not risk exposing others by going to visit a healthcare providers if you are not experiencing complications from the flu or if you don’t believe you have been exposed to COVID-19. If you have flu-like symptoms and have been exposed to the COVID-19, contact your doctor about being tested. In that event, call ahead before visiting your doctor. This will help the healthcare provider’s office take steps to keep other people from getting infected or exposed.

KDHE recommends that employees who appear to have acute respiratory illness symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath) upon arrival to work or become sick during the day should be separated from other employees and be sent home immediately.

KDHE has the following information to help you and your family be prepared for COVID-19

- [Family Action Plan Handout](#)
- [If You Are Sick with COVID-19](#)
- [Reduce the Spread of COVID-19](#)

**Interim Guidance for Preventing the Spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) in Homes and Residential Communities**

**KDOT KUDOS**
The city recently received a $326,185 KDOT access grant for FY21. We'll be using it to link the Naismith east side sidewalk from 19th-23rd. This is the final segment of the 2013 Access study. Congrats to staff for securing this grant! Thanks @KDOTHQ!

Yesterday @KDOTHQ announced that @jocogov had six transit projects selected for funding under the "Access, Innovation & Collaboration" program - microtransit expansion, fleet enhancements & access to healthcare, healthy food & county services. More details to come!

11:20 AM · Mar 11, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Josh Powers @JoshuaCPowers · 2h
Replying to @JoshuaCPowers
I hope it’s obvious but I do want to specifically thank @KDOTHQ, esp. Secretary Lorenz and the Public Transportation section - the AIC program is going to be impactful right away for transit providers in Kansas.

David 'Wash Your Hands' Johnson @kclightrail · 3h
Replying to @JoshuaCPowers @KDOTHQ and @jocogov
Congratulations!

Josh Powers @JoshuaCPowers · 3h
Thank you! Great news for the @RideKCTransit region.

Billy Smith @BillySmith · 2h
Replying to @JoshuaCPowers @KDOTHQ and @jocogov
Fantastic news for those in need