

TRANSLINES EXPRESS

Dec. 7, 2022

Changes taking place in KDOT leadership



Julie Lorenz



Burt Morey



Calvin Reed



Greg Schieber

After nearly four years, Secretary Julie Lorenz has resigned from KDOT and the KTA. Her final day in both positions is Friday, Dec. 23. She will be returning to the private sector.

“Julie has been a visionary transportation secretary, seeing infrastructure not simply as roads and bridges but as a powerful way to bring people together for the betterment of future generations,” Governor Laura Kelly said. “Her ability to envision what could be and her determination to build strong coalitions have been essential to our success in closing the Bank of KDOT, passing a bipartisan 10-year infrastructure program and coordinating billions of dollars in infrastructure funding. I am thankful for her service to my administration and to all Kansans, and I wish her the very best.”

In addition to leading the launch of the Kansas Infrastructure Hub, Secretary Lorenz oversaw the creation of the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program, modernized the highway system’s infrastructure for electrification and created a Division of Safety, resulting in a decrease of workplace accidents

by 46%. Today, KDOT has over 1,000 infrastructure projects in the works across Kansas.

“I want to thank Governor Kelly for the opportunity to serve Kansas,” Secretary Lorenz said. “I’m most proud that during my tenure, we were able to craft and implement our new state transportation program, IKE. Thanks to the bipartisan support for IKE, we have rebuilt our infrastructure and modernized how we deliver transportation, allowing Kansas to better seize opportunities and meet challenges now and in the future.”

Calvin Reed, Senior Director of the Division of Engineering and Design, will serve as Acting Secretary of Transportation until a new Secretary is nominated and confirmed.

Burt Morey, Deputy Secretary and State Transportation Engineer, also is retiring after a 30-year career in the field. See an article on page 2 in this edition on Morey.

Greg Schieber, the current Director of Project Delivery, will fill the role of Interim Deputy Secretary and State Transportation Engineer until a permanent replacement is selected.

**Reception for Secretary
Julie Lorenz and State
Transportation Engineer
Burt Morey**

9 to 10:30 a.m., Friday, Dec. 9

4th Floor Auditorium, Eisenhower
State Office Building, Topeka



In 2012, Burt Morey was named the Project Director for the Johnson County Gateway, which was the state's first design-build project. File photo by KDOT Multimedia

Morey retires from KDOT after 30-year transportation career

By Kim Stich
Headquarters

Burt Morey, Deputy Secretary and State Transportation Engineer for KDOT, is retiring after 30 years of service in transportation.

"I am happy to be ending my career in public service as the State Transportation Engineer. It has been a great opportunity," he said.

Morey graduated from Kansas State University in 1991 with a degree in civil engineering. After four years at a private company, Morey came to KDOT in 1995 as an Engineering Associate III in the bridge section. In 2000, he went to the Douglas County Public Works office, then came back to the bridge section after two years. He served as the Bridge Construction Manual Engineer, "where I got to travel across the state, working in KDOT construction offices and helping people solve real world problems," he said.

In 2004, Morey transferred to the Lawrence KDOT construction office, then was selected two years later as the Assistant District Construction Engineer. After a short stint, Morey was named the KDOT Metro Engineer in Olathe, where he served for five years. In 2012, Morey was selected to be the Project Director for the Johnson County Gateway. He left KDOT in 2015 to work as the City Engineer of Overland Park, where he served until his current appointment to KDOT in 2019.

"It's been my honor to serve KDOT in multiple capacities throughout my career," Morey said. "Thanks to our team, we've been able to increase highway construction and improve worker safety at the same time, and Kansas is better off because of it."

Morey's last day at KDOT is Dec. 23. He plans to take some time off and explore future options. He and his wife, Jan, have two children – Brett, who is an engineer, and Kennedy, who is in medical school.

TRANSLINES EXPRESS

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Office of the Secretary
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Transportation Secretary
Julie Lorenz

Deputy Secretary
Burt Morey

Administration
Allison Sedore

Aviation
Bob Brock

Communications
Steve Hale

Engineering and Design
Calvin Reed

Field Operations
Clay Adams

Interim Fiscal/Asset Management
Pam Anderson

Multimodal Transportation and Innovation
Cory Davis

Planning & Development
Chris Herrick

Policy
Joel Skelley

Interim Program & Project Management
Pete Van Sickle

Project Delivery
Greg Schieber

Safety
Troy Whitworth

Example of Excellence

Subarea employees assist in getting the job done



Congratulations to members of the Council Grove Subarea Team for being selected as the Example of Excellence for the third quarter of 2022. They were nominated by Strong City Highway Maintenance Supervisor Bill Wilson for their outstanding assistance to other subareas in Area Three as well as across District Two.

Wilson said the team members were ready to assist with all duties such as patching, snow removal, mowing, blade patching and shoulder work, and they are also very proficient with the spray patcher. The ceremony took place on Nov. 16 with Director of Field Operations Clay Adams at the Subarea Office in Marion.

Pictured above, from left to right, Clay Adams, Joe Palic, Kevin Jirak, Josh Bachura, Brent Terstriep, Wilson, Gary Wirtz, James Fetters, Randy Kunc, Adam Sommer and Randy Wittman. Photo by Kim Stich, Headquarters



State offices will be closed for the holidays on Monday, Dec. 26, and on Monday, Jan. 2.
Have a safe and Merry Christmas!

Don't forget to use your 2022 Discretionary Day by Friday, Dec. 23.

Gower retires after 30 years at KDOT

Brian D. Gower (BDG), Chief of the Bureau of Traffic Engineering for KDOT, is retiring after 30 years of dedicated service to the agency.

In 1990, Gower graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in civil engineering. His KDOT career began in 1992, and he has served his entire career in the Bureau of Traffic Engineering.

Gower was the State Traffic Engineer for 13 years, then was named the Bureau Chief in 2017. The bureau includes the Traffic Engineering Section and the Signing Section (Permanent Signing Unit and Traffic Control Unit).



Brian Gower

“I couldn’t have worked for a better agency. I have had great coworkers and a special staff along the way,” Gower said. “KDOT gave me my start, which blossomed into a wonderful career. I have been very fortunate.”

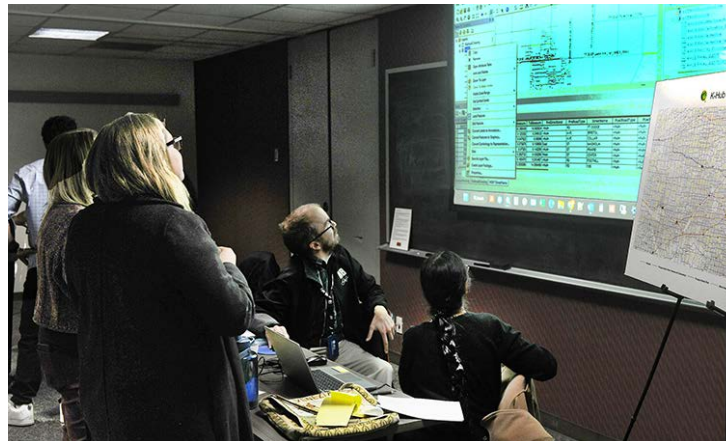
His last day in the office is Dec. 9. He plans to navigate and succeed in his next chapter, retirement.

Importance of GIS at KDOT illustrated at open house

KDOT’s Geographic Information System (GIS) open house on Nov. 17 provided more than 80 attendees an opportunity to learn about GIS data and tools used by staff as well as increased awareness of its importance throughout the agency.

Stations were set up in the Eisenhower Building’s auditorium with Transportation Planning and Transportation Safety employees demonstrating various GIS dashboards, applications and products used at KDOT. Eric Abrams, from GeoDecisions, delivered the keynote address and shared experiences as the Geographic Information Officer for Iowa DOT.

“Almost all transportation-related data are tied to locations, and geographic information systems are used to store, edit, analyze and display those data,” said James Stewart, KDOT GIS Manager. “Ultimately, GIS data support KDOT’s decision-making processes at nearly every level. This helps keep the traveling public informed and improves safety.”



In the photos at left, attendees at the GIS open house check out some of the many ways GIS data is incorporated into processes and projects throughout KDOT. Photos by Multimedia Services

Employee spotlight: Donnie Burkholder, Highway Supervisor

What's your job title?
Highway Maintenance Supervisor for the District Specials Crew in Salina.

What sort of duties do you have at work?
I manage the schedule and tasks of workers on the District Specials Crew and help them to complete those tasks around the District, whether it is delivering equipment to an area, building a box culvert, helping plow snow, installation of brine tanks and more.

What's the most exciting part of your job?
I enjoy visiting other areas in our District and being able to help them out with their needs. My favorite thing is knowing that I am helping keep the public and employees safe.

What's something you're proud of?
I'm proud of the crew's accomplishments working with other areas and of how much we can get done when we all work together.

What's your favorite food?
Steak.

What's your favorite movie?
"Fast and Furious."



Donnie Burkholder is the Highway Maintenance Supervisor for the District Specials crew in Salina.

Do you have any hidden talents or hobbies?

It's not a secret, many people around the District know that I have my own concrete business on the side and provide skilled concrete work, which has come in very useful when helping around the District.

Do you have any pets?

I have two dogs, a Bichon poodle and Bernedoodle.

Are you a sports fan? Who are your favorite teams?

Football - Kansas City Chiefs.

Are you a morning person or a night owl?
Both.

What's something you find challenging about your work?

Trying to find a project that I can't accomplish, which

hasn't happened yet because I always manage to find a way.

What's your favorite season?
Spring.

What three items would you take with you to a deserted island?

Matches, a knife and water.

GETTING TO KNOW

OUR KDOT CO-WORKERS

Featuring an employee each month from different offices throughout KDOT.

U.S. 169 opens to traffic as reconstruction project wraps up



Late on Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Eve, the barricades were pulled away and traffic began flowing on U.S. 169 north of Chanute. This final stretch of U.S. 169 pavement reconstruction, between K-39 at Chanute and U.S. 54 at Iola, had been closed since July. Work on the 13-mile project started in 2021. The project began 3 miles north of K-47 and extended about 2 miles north of the Allen County line. Emery Sapp and Sons Inc., of Kansas City, was the primary contractor on the \$32.6 million project.

The photo at left shows the new pavement near Plummer Road. Jeff Sims' road squad and Peter Tobaben's bridge squad designed the project. Photo by Priscilla Petersen, District Four

Large rock slide closes low-traffic highway

By Yazmin Moreno
Headquarters

It was rocking and rolling for several hours on K-94 in southwest Kansas. John Zerker, Caretaker of Clark State Fishing Lake, reported the rockslide to Bucklin Highway Maintenance Supervisor Travis Hearne at 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 16. No one witnessed the slide, but numerous rocks covered the highway.

Bucklin Subarea Crew members put up barricades that night. They removed the rocks from the highway the next morning by pushing them to the side of the roadway, which has a declining area near the lake. The highway was not damaged and was opened.

The slide took place about 100 yards from the end of K-94, which then turns into a rock road that dead ends near the lake at the camping area. The annual average daily traffic count on this highway



Rocks covered K-94 on Nov. 16 near the camping area next to Clark State Fishing Lake. Photo by Travis Hearne, District Six

is 35 vehicles a day. It's used more in the summer when people are camping, and the number of drivers significantly decreases during the winter months.

U.S. 24 bridge replacements starting in District Three

By Lisa Mussman
District Three

A trio of bridge replacement projects is underway in Graham County.

The bridges are located about 7.5, 9 and 13.5 miles west of Hill City on U.S. 24. Work began in November to construct shoofly detours around each of the bridges. Once the detours are complete, traffic will be routed around the structures so crews may start demolition and reconstruction work.



The projects are expected to be completed in August 2023, weather permitting. King Construction of Hesston is the primary contractor, with a combined contract cost of approximately \$5.7 million.

An additional bridge replacement is also underway on U.S. 40 in Logan County. A new box structure is being constructed on an off-set alignment approximately

6 miles west of Oakley. Work on the \$1.85 million project is expected to be finished in May 2023. Sporer Land Development of Oakley is the primary contractor.



Above, the new box structure on U.S. 40 in Logan County starts to take shape. Jeff Sims' road squad and Peter Tobaben's bridge squad designed the project. At left, work takes place on one of the three shoofly detours being built on U.S. 24 in Graham County. Greg Gonzales' road squad and Shawn Schwensen's bridge squad designed the project. Photos by Todd Anderson and Brian Avery, District Three

Delayed T-WORKS project nearly complete

The last delayed T-WORKS project in District One is wrapping up in Osage County. The \$15 million realignment project began in May 2021 and reconstructed nearly 7 miles of K-31 between Osage City and U.S. 75. The new, two-lane roadway opened to motorists in November. The highway provides wider driving lanes and shoulders, and improved sight distance and passing opportunities. The project is expected to be complete in January, weather permitting. Bettis Asphalt & Construction, of Topeka, is the prime contractor. This photo shows the east end of the new K-31 alignment. Stephen Bass's road squad and Brad Rognlie's bridge squad designed the project. Photo by Jason Thompson, Lochner





Equipment Mechanic Shane Thompson looks over a new dump truck at the District Five Shop at Hutchinson. Photo by Tim Potter, District Five

Dump trucks have new features to fight SNICE

By Tim Potter
District Five

Just how important are dump trucks to KDOT highway maintenance, especially for clearing snow and ice (SNICE)?

KDOT Equipment Engineer Tim Cunningham summed it up: “The dump trucks are really the backbone of our fleet in maintenance.”

Cunningham explained that KDOT tries to buy new dump trucks every two years so they can be replaced in a timely way. Evaluation and purchasing of trucks is a layered and time-consuming process, he said. Feedback from operators in the field is part of it.

Cunningham gave an overview of features on the new trucks arriving at KDOT shops. It starts with what he calls an engine with a good reputation: a 330-horsepower diesel.

Beyond the engine, the truck wields a 12-foot front plow and can be equipped with a wing plow on the driver’s or passenger’s side, depending on the need. He noted that District Five will have two trucks with driver’s side wing plows that are useful when plowing divided four-lane highways where snow needs to be pushed to the median.

One of the difficulties in plowing, Cunningham said, is keeping the windshield clear. The new trucks use a heating element to keep the buildup melted. Another feature is a vibrating wiper that shakes off frozen snow.

And there is a time-saving, practical feature that KDOT is experimenting with: a center spray boom that lets the operator spray brine – liquid salt -- directly onto the pavement without dispensing granular salt from the hopper. So it gives the option of using only liquid to focus brine on certain spots. With this feature, a driver doesn’t have to go back to the shop to put on a brine tank, Cunningham noted.

And another feature: a washing system that helps clean the cameras outside the trucks so operators can better see how their equipment is working.

Aside from SNICE work, the trucks’ warning lights system -- used to make trucks visible while they are maintaining highways -- offers a technology where multiple trucks’ lights can be synchronized to flash the same pattern at the same time. This can help attract attention to a work zone and reduce confusion. The light synchronization helps when more than one truck is out working together on the highways, Cunningham said. The synchronization is coordinated by satellite technology.

Use caution, take it slow driving in snow

By Troy Whitworth
Director of Safety

Winter weather is quickly approaching and, in many cases, already reared its ugly head. The recent cold weather is a big reminder that we have another five months of cold and precipitation in the form of snow or ice. All I can say to this is, yuck.

But since I brought up the subject of snow and ice, I believe it is good to review some safety tips that will be important during these cold months. If you park outside, you will end up with frost on your vehicle's windows. Make sure to allow yourself a few extra minutes in the morning to clean your windows before leaving for work. When you clean your windows, don't just make a peephole. Clean the entire surface of your windows.

When you do proceed onto the roadway, remember that elevated surfaces like bridges and overpasses can be slick when frost is present. So, don't use the cruise control when you are uncertain of road conditions or when snow and ice are present. Cruise control tries to keep your vehicle at a constant speed. In slick conditions the tires can spin, which can cause you to lose control.

Make sure to slow down and increase your following distance. Drivers of other vehicles have been known to tap or ride their brakes during snowy conditions. Imagine if you were closely following one of these drivers, and you look away for a second. When you look back, that vehicle's brake lights of the vehicle are on. You quickly stab the brake, but you hit them a little

harder than expected. Next thing you know, you find your vehicle in a skid. Then you end up in the ditch, or worse yet, smashed into the vehicle in front of you.

Momentum can cause the vehicle to go in a straight line. So, do your best to start slowing down in advance of a turn or when stopping at an intersection - it just takes longer on snowy, icy roadways. You will also notice when applying the brakes that anti-lock brakes can pulse when the system senses the tires slipping. This can be alarming to some of us who learned to drive in a time without anti-lock brake technology. Regardless, it is good to know how your vehicle reacts when you apply the brakes on slippery roadways.



Get a feel for how your vehicle reacts to wintry conditions in the first few blocks of your trip. When there is no traffic around, accelerate slowly and then apply the brakes. Does the vehicle tire lose traction and spin as you accelerate? Do the brakes pulse when you apply them? These two actions can help you quickly identify slick road conditions. And

remember, four-wheel drive vehicles make it easier for the vehicle to get going on slick roads. But it doesn't help braking and cornering. I have seen a lot of four-wheel drive vehicles in the ditch during and after a snow storm.

KDOT advises motorists to stay home during a snow and ice event; there is no sense in taking unnecessary risks if you don't have to. If you must travel, take it slow and remember these tips above as well as tips provided by AAA in this short video [HERE](#). You may be able to drive well in nasty weather, but not all drivers do. For your family and mine.

KanDrive video valuable to partners

By Tom Hein
District Five

In 2021, the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Bureau completed installation of new sign and camera control software that includes a new camera video distribution system. This is an upgrade from the previous website that showed only snapshots.

“The new video distribution system allows us to send live video to the KanDrive public website so that all of our partners have better access to KDOT video,” said Shari Hilliard, State ITS Engineer.

Glen Scot at the KTA has been commuting to work across Wichita on U.S. 54 for 14 years. “One of the best improvements is the addition of live video. It provides a visual perspective of how traffic is flowing in real time that was not so easy to interpret from the still shots,” he said. “I have also used it to determine how traffic is adapting to inclement weather as well as high-volume or backed-up traffic during rush hour. A quick look before heading out the door helps me adjust my route.”

“KanDrive is such a valuable resource for me and should be for all travelers across our state,” said KHP Trooper Ben Gardner of Salina. “I love having the ability to see live video and images of intersections and roadways all across Kansas.”

Trooper Chad Crittenden of Wichita agrees. “KanDrive and WICHway websites and apps are excellent tools for dispatchers, law enforcement and emergency services. We are able to obtain live video of road conditions, traffic hazards and traffic congestion prior to arriving to scenes. It helps dispatch provide us with more accurate information when responding to calls.”

Gardner added, “The Kandrive app is a must-have on my phone.”

Traffic reports across the state use the website apps too. Jad Chambers of KNSS radio in Wichita said



Click [HERE](#) to see the link KDOT’s Multimedia staff created that shows an example of the livestream that can be seen on KanDrive (note – KDOT does not store any footage – it’s livestream only). Photo of KanDrive website

he found KanDrive and WICHway incredibly useful from the day it went online. “And as the features and customization options have continued to roll out, it just gets better and better,” he said. “I bring up a WICHway tab in my browser before doing my first traffic report every day, and that tab stays open until my last one is done.”

Appreciation for live video is also expressed by KDOT users.

David Lechner, Wichita Maintenance Superintendent, is able to assist getting personnel into and out of congested areas due to emergency situations - from his office. “It’s a great help in making sure traffic control is placed properly during these incidents.”

Maintenance Engineer Joe Finley uses the camera feed during SNICE events to look at the conditions in various areas in District Six. “I also check to see if the road conditions that are being reported are consistent with what I am seeing on the cameras,” he said.

District Five Maintenance Engineer Dave Bohnenblust often gets up in the middle of the night during a snowstorm to view the camera feeds and check the road conditions. “It’s another tool we can use to make sure our SNICE operations are performing for the public,” he said.

Trivia!

Famous people who received the purple heart.

1. He used the GI Bill to study acting and starred in “The Magnificent Seven” and “The Dirty Dozen.”
2. After serving, he took a nonspeaking role in a Broadway production. Then he was in television commercials, which led to several television and feature film roles. His big break was in the show “Maverick.”
3. He enrolled in the U.S. Army in 1943 and wanted to be a fighter pilot, but was more than 6 feet tall. He was shot in the left leg less than a year later.
4. His experiences in the Philippines led him to create “The Twilight Zone” and write many of the episodes.
5. Before creating gadgets on “Gilligan’s Island,” he flew combat missions as a bombardier in World War II.

Lighting up the holiday season



The Fort Scott Subarea leaned into the theme of the Dec. 1 Christmas parade, “It’s a gingerbread Christmas in Fort Scott,” with a festively lighted and decorated dump truck. Operating the truck and walking alongside while handing out candy were Equipment Operator Specialist Derek Koppa and Equipment Operators Dalton Weddle, Chris Pike and Daniel Ingram. Photos by the Fort Scott office



Trivia answers

1. Charles Bronson. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1943 working as a truck driver, but eventually became a tail gunner in a B-29. After the war, he was awarded a Purple Heart for an injury he received.
2. James Garner. He joined the Merchant Marines at age 16, but suffered from seasickness. He also served in the National Guard and the Army. He served for 14 months during the Korean War and was injured twice. As a result, he received two Purple Hearts.
3. James Arness. After he was injured during an invasion in Italy, the nurses in the hospital said with his

booming voice, he should work in radio. He later tried acting – his injury hurt intensely when mounting his horse on “Gunsmoke.”

4. Rod Serling. During World War II, he was put in a platoon that was considered dangerous and was injured several times in battle.

5. Russell Johnson. His plane was shot down in 1945, resulting in broken ankles. He also received the Air Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon and the World War II Victory Medal.

KDOT engineer serves as election poll worker

By Tracy Statton
District Five

Several KDOT employees across the state have worked polling places at election time. Winfield Area Engineer AJ Wilson said he first started working the polls when employees were allowed to use administrative leave.

“I felt as though it would be an interesting experience, getting to see that part of our democracy,” Wilson said.

Any Kansas state employee interested in volunteering needs supervisor approval. Not all employees can be approved, as the operational needs of the agency must come first. Approved employees receive paid administrative leave for regularly scheduled hours. Wilson said the process was easy - he contacted his county election office, and they set up everything.

“They taught me how to set up the machines, how to turn on the machines, how to process each type of person that comes to vote and how to shut down the machines at the end of the day,” Wilson said.

“It really does fill me with a lot of energy to get to talk to people as much as I do while I work the polls. At the end of the 16-hour day, I find myself pleasantly



AJ Wilson, Winfield Area Engineer, wears a patriotic hat while checking in a voter. Photo by Tracy Statton, District Five.

exhausted,” Wilson said.

Wilson said the election office tries to get an even number of volunteers from each party affiliation, which allows for some interesting conversations. It also provides a unique work dynamic as the volunteers must learn to work together.

“I very much appreciate that the state allows us to be able to do this. It kind of goes hand-in-hand with serving the state with KDOT,” Wilson said.

Art Walk

Employees check out various pieces of artwork that were on display as part of the Employees' Council Art Walk that took place on Nov. 16 at the Eisenhower State Office Building.



Safety enhancements made at U.S. 24/K-13 intersection

By Kate Craft
District One

Two new roundabouts are planned for the K-13 and K-113 intersections on U.S. 24 in Manhattan. Work on the tied projects is expected to begin in the spring of 2024, but a different project at the K-13/U.S. 24 intersection has just been completed.

KDOT approved an emergency project for safety enhancements until construction of the roundabouts can begin. The intersection has been the site of 28 crashes since 2017, making its crash rate about three times higher than the statewide average.

Work began in September and included the reduction of U.S. 24 from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction, signing modifications and striping. The offset of the left turn lanes on U.S. 24 was also adjusted, which will help address the crashes that have recently occurred at the intersection by allowing left-



This photo shows changes made recently to westbound U.S. 24 at the K-13 intersection. Photo by Kate Craft, District One

turning vehicles to better see oncoming traffic.

“I believe (these changes) will help improve safety at this location,” said Matt Mackeprang, Area Five Engineer. He said KDOT has received thanks for taking action with the project.

Bayer Construction Co., of Manhattan, was the prime contractor on the \$750,000 project.

STEP BACK IN TIME ...

This photo was taken in 1953 of a parade traveling along the main street in the city of Pittsburg. Notice all the antique vehicles parked on either side of the road. Photo from Multimedia Services archives



Keeping the public informed

Several meetings have taken place recently on upcoming transportation projects in southwest Kansas. At right, many gather for information on the U.S. 50 four-lane expansion project in Finney and Gray counties. Below, a large crowd gathered in Liberal to learn more about future and current projects in the Seward County area. Photos by Yazmin Moreno, District Six



New Panasonic facility breaks ground near K-10

By Delaney Tholen
District One

Secretary Julie Lorenz joined Governor Laura Kelly, public officials, business leaders and executives from Panasonic Energy Co. on Nov. 2 at a groundbreaking ceremony for the new \$4 billion Panasonic battery plant in Johnson County.

Before selecting the De Soto location, Panasonic reviewed more than 100 sites in a dozen states. Panasonic will produce cylindrical Li-ion (lithium-ion) batteries, for use in electric vehicles, and expects to have products ready in early 2025.

The facility will occupy more than 600 acres near K-10 and is expected to create about 4,000 new jobs. Capacity improvements along the corridor are being studied to support both existing high-volume traffic and growth in the area.

Lorenz said, "What we're seeing on K-10, it actually has as much traffic as I-70 in many locations."



Secretary Julie Lorenz talks to the media about K-10 traffic changes after the groundbreaking event for the new Panasonic facility. Photo by Delaney Tholen, District One



Kansas kids focus on safety

Nearly 500 kids across Kansas participated in the Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day poster contest, with 18 regional and three statewide winners selected.

Presentations for each winner highlighted their efforts in creating posters focused on different ways to improve traffic safety. A winner from each district is featured on this page.



1. Brooklyn Schmidt, regional winner in District Five. 2. Lana Marsh, statewide winner in District Two. 3. Jordyn Cox, District Three regional winner, with KHP Technical Trooper Tod Hileman. 4. Hayes Garten, District Four regional winner, with KHP Trooper Brett Goins and KDOT Erie Supervisor Bruce Myres. 5. Megan Barnhart, District One regional winner, with KHP Lt. Candice Breshears. 6. Wesley Evans, District Six regional winner, with KHP Technical Trooper Michael Racy.



Thank you for your service

Retirees

The following employees will retire on Jan. 1.

Headquarters

Kent Anschutz, Professional Civil Engineer II – Bridge Team Leader, Local Projects

William Bartron, Engineering Technician Senior, Traffic Engineering

Brian Gower, Bureau Chief, Traffic Engineering

Bennett Hagan, Engineering Associate III, Road Design

Darren Miller, Information Systems Manager II, Maintenance

Burton Morey, Deputy Secretary/State Transportation Engineer, Office of Secretary

Joan Myer, Environmental Compliance & Regulations Specialist I, Right of Way

Karla Thies, Assistant Bureau Chief, Human Resources

Mark Ummel, State Auditor II, Inspector General

David Wenger, Engineering Technician Specialist, Road Design

District Two

David Bergman, Equipment Operator Specialist, Minneapolis

Shad Lohman, Professional Civil Engineer II, Salina

Michael Martinitz, Equipment Operator Specialist, Abilene

Samuel Paull, Land Surveyor II, Salina

Greg Rietcheck, Engineering Technician Specialist, Salina

District Three

Max Dirks, Highway Maintenance Superintendent, Hays

Harold Schleicher, Area Engineer (PCE II), Phillipsburg

District Four

Roger Houchin, Equipment Operator Senior, Altoona

District Five

Kevin Atteberry, Equipment Operator Specialist, Larned

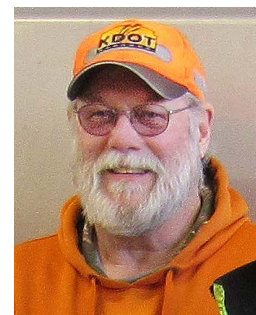
Terry Larkin, Equipment Operator Senior, Lyons

Robert Tomlinson, Engineering Technician Midpoint, Great Bend

If you know a KDOT retiree who is not receiving Translines - have them email Kim.stich@ks.gov - thanks

In Memory

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT Equipment Operator **Michael Russell**, of Wichita. Michael passed away on Oct. 27 in Wichita. Russell started working at KDOT in 2013 as an Equipment Operator. He worked at the Wichita - North Subarea Shop and had nearly 10 years of service at KDOT. Russell was involved in Sons of the American Legion and the American Legion Riders at Legion Post 4 and 401. He received a golden mouthpiece for playing trombone in a state competition. He is survived by a son, daughter, eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



Michael Russell

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree **Carroll Morgenson**, who passed away on Nov. 3 in Topeka. He started at KDOT in 1959 and served for nearly 33 years, retiring in 1992. Morgenson was the Chief Landscape Architect.

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree **Cindy Tichenor**, who passed away on Nov. 26 in Chanute. She started at KDOT in 1985. Tichenor was an Accountant I at the District Four office in Chanute. She retired in 2015, with nearly 30 years of service.

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree **Norman Stine**, who died Nov. 24 in Ft. Scott. He was a Highway Maintenance Superintendent at the Iola office. Stine worked at KDOT for 35 years, retiring in 1992.

KDOT Employee Council Holiday Ornament Order Form

Year	Quantity	Cost	Total
2022		\$6	
2020		\$3	
2019		\$3	
2015		\$3	
2013		\$3	
Total enclosed			



Please Print -

Name: _____

Work address: _____

(Retirees only - home address)

Best phone: _____

How to Order:

HQ - email/call Jennifer to make arrangements.

Districts/Retirees - Mail form to -
Jennifer Meyer, ESOB/6th Floor,
700 SW Harrison, Topeka, KS 66603

Checks payable: KDOT
Employees' Council

For more details, contact
Jennifer: (785) 296-3661 or
Jennifer.Meyer@ks.gov

A few past ornaments still available

