

Translines EXPRESS

April 22, 2015

Example of Excellence



Secretary King poses with District Four, Area Three Maintenance team members after being named an Example of Excellence this afternoon in Independence.

Job well done: District Four, Area Three Maintenance team members worked together to replace sections of highway along U.S. 400 that had failed. They did this while keeping up on other general maintenance duties, and their efforts were honored as an Example of Excellence for the first quarter of 2015.

Team members were recognized today by Secretary Mike King in Independence and included Timothy Baker, Randy Bierle Jr., Nathan Blankinship, Kevin Crain, Michael Doyle, Ronnie Driskill, Benjamin Easley,

Nicholas Eastwood, David Elder, Gene Erikson, Clinton Frederiksen, Scott Gelwick, Matthew Glasgow, Bradley Harter, Roger Houchin, Alan Hougardy, Michael Hurt, Larry Isle, Josey Leck, Marcus Leck, Raymond McNeal, Jeffery Nalley, Randall Nalley, Jim Ogden, Tom Reaves, Steven Shepard, Michael Simmons, Donald Simpson, William Snyder, Mark Suddock, Dale Sweaney, Doyle Tegethoff, Phillip Thompson, Larry Umbarger, Frederick Veith, Arthur Wade Jr., Larry Walker and Thomas Ware.

Aviation

Acting Director of Aviation: Tiffany Brown has been named acting KDOT Director of Aviation by Secretary Mike King.

Brown, who joined KDOT in February 2013 as the State Aviation Engineer, has also served as the agency's Deputy Director of Aviation and managed the Kansas Airport Improvement Program. She assumes her new role April 16, replacing Jesse Romo who resigned to become Director of the Manhattan Regional Airport.

Before joining KDOT, she was a design engineer working on airport master plans and engineering design for Benesch, a Manhattan consulting firm.



Tiffany Brown

Traffic Count Map

Traffic flow maps: The 2015 Traffic Flow Map is now available in printed and electronic formats. For a printed copy, go to the second floor of ESOB. To request an electronic copy, send an email to TrafficCounts@ksdot.org. Or look at them on the KDOT website at <http://www.ksdot.org/burtransplan/maps/MapsTrafficDist.asp>. For more information, contact KDOT Traffic Count Coordinator Terry Barnes at 785-296-7443.

Trivia!

Today is Earth Day!

1. When was Earth Day first celebrated?
2. Who founded Earth Day?
3. On average, how long does it take to manufacture, fill, sell, recycle and then remanufacture an aluminum can?
4. By 2030, how much carbon dioxide could be saved by reducing waste by 1% a year and recycling and composting 90% of discards?
5. Every ton of paper that is recycled saves how many trees?
6. How long does garbage stay in a landfill?
7. What is about 1/3 of all water used for?

Retirees

The following employees will retire from KDOT in April.

Headquarters

Sondra Clark, Public Service Executive II, Local Projects

District Five

Michael Fairleigh, Engineering Technician Senior, Pratt

The following employees will retire from KDOT in May.

Headquarters

Harold Mayer, Transportation Planning, Engineering Technician

Loren Risch, Chief of Structures & Geotechnical Services

District One

Timothy Bickford, Equipment Body Mechanic, Topeka

District Three

Matthew Schillig, Jr., Equipment Operator Specialist, Hoxie

Have an idea for a news brief or picture for Translines Express? Please e-mail to translines@ksdot.org

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. April 22, 1970
2. U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson
3. About six weeks
4. 406 megatons – equivalent to shutting down 21% of the nation's coal-fired power plants
5. About 17 trees
6. About 30 years
7. Flushing the toilet

KDOT Transportation Blog

Kansas Transportation

Tuesday, April 14

How many football fields equal the amount KDOT mows each year?



KDOT field crews will soon be back on mowers maintaining more than 150,000 acres of highway right-of-way. By the end of the growing season, they will have mowed the equivalent of 250,000 football fields. Like any work done along high-speed highways, mowing is hazardous. KDOT reminds drivers to slow down when approaching a mower, give them as much space as is safe, eliminate distractions and be respectful of the men and women who operate the mowers.

In recent years, the agency has adopted policies that reduce mowing frequency to save money, reduce crashes, enhance roadside aesthetics and provide cover for small wildlife.

KDOT plants native grasses and wildflowers – which are easier to maintain – on new construction projects, only mows the full right-of-way (the area beyond 15 feet of the road) every four years, and works with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism; Natural Resource Conservation Services and others to develop a responsive roadside management program.

To learn more about how KDOT manages Kansas' roadsides, click [here](#).

To see more stories on transportation topics, check out the regular posts on the Kansas Transportation blog at <http://kansastransportation.blogspot.com/>

District Five

KDOT employees recently participated in a job-a-thon at the Pratt County fairground for area high school students. Assisting from the Pratt Subarea were Mark Shumway, Leroy Lewis, Kevin Thomas, Harry Williams, and Mark Valenti. There was an informational table, a demonstration of how the flagging paddle works and many questions were answered about dump trucks and loaders.



Transportation Alternative Program



Participants in the Topeka Metro Bikes program ride from Washburn University to the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library. At left, Secretary Mike King speaks at the event.

Biking in Topeka: The Topeka Metro Bikes program launched the first-ever bike share system in the state last Wednesday at Washburn University. There are 100 bikes available with 75 bike racks around the city, 10 hub locations and four registration kiosks. Bikes can be rented on an hourly or yearly time frame. Phase One of the city's Bikeways Master Plan was selected as one of KDOT's Transportation Alternative project in 2013, and in 2014, Phase Two was selected.

District Four



The new K-39 bridge at the east edge of Chanute is nearing completion. Crews with project contractor B&B Bridge place the concrete for the bridge approach on the west side. The \$1.7 million project should be finished this summer.

District Two



Deputy Secretary Jerry Younger and Director of Operations Catherine Patrick talked with attendees at the District Two Maintenance meeting on April 9 in Salina.

District Six

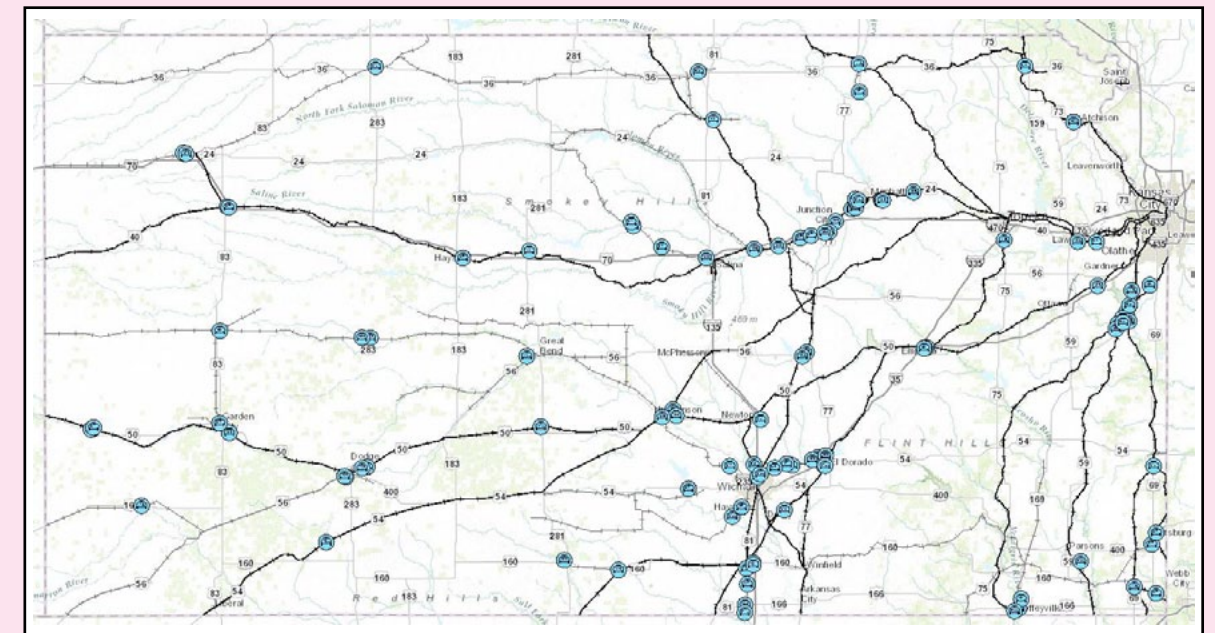


A geometric improvement project on Main Street (U.S. 283) in Jetmore is ready to start this week. The project will replace a two-block stretch of brick pavement with concrete pavement, from Highway Street to Best Street. The contractor is J-A-G Construction Company of Dodge City at a cost of \$939,000, with KDOT's contribution capped at \$700,000. The work is expected to be completed by August.

Transload Shipping Center

Transload Facility Site Analysis Survey Submittals

Widespread interest: The possibility of developing a transload shipping center has drawn widespread interest from Kansas cities and counties. As part of a KDOT/HDR study to develop selection criteria, communities were invited to complete a survey about possible sites. Sixty-two cities and counties submitted letters of interest for 108 sites. Rail and Freight Manager John Maddox said he was pleased but not surprised with the response. "A transload facility would provide economic development for any city, county or region in Kansas and it would greatly



The map shows where letters of interest in developing a transload shipping center have been received.

benefit farmers, manufacturers and shippers." Those who submitted initial letters of interest will now be asked to complete a more detailed questionnaire. Proposed sites that meet certain criteria will be scheduled for further site analysis.

District Four

The first of eight planned projects to place passing lanes on U.S. 400 from Butler County east to Cherokee County began this spring. The project is located just east of the Montgomery-Labette county line. Shilling Construction is the contractor on the \$3.3 million expansion.



District One



After

The broken wing wall on the U.S. 36 bridge in Brown County was repaired two months ahead of schedule.



Before

Ahead of schedule: Work to replace a broken wing wall on the south side of the U.S. 36 bridge two miles west of the U.S. 75 and U.S. 36 interchange near Fairview was finished on Monday, nearly two months ahead of schedule. Crews replaced the 24-foot long by 13-foot high broken wing wall with a new reinforced concrete wall adjacent to the bridge structure. Reece Construction Company of Scandia was the contractor on the \$136,000 project.

District One

Below, KDOT staff from Olathe Area and Subarea maintenance crews, Kansas City Metro Materials, and Structures & Geotechnical Services showed more than 1,000 students in the Kansas City Metro area a variety of trades at KDOT during the iBuild Construction Career Day on April 14. It is an annual event for middle and high school students to connect with industry professionals in the metro area. The KDOT exhibit booth featured a geology presentation, materials testing, portable work zone sign assembly, maintenance tasks and attenuator discussions. At right, Equipment Operator Mason Philpot of the Garner Subarea shows a student how to set up a portable sign.



District Four

Relocating the Union Pacific locomotive that derailed along K-39 at Benedict will wait. KDOT had planned to briefly close the highway on April 15 so U.P. could lift the locomotive onto the crossing. Spring storms earlier in the week created a muddy swamp, delaying the operation. The locomotive and several other U.P. cars were derailed in a collision with a truck in January.

