

Translines EXPRESS

Jan. 28, 2015

State of the State

Gov. Sam Brownback delivers the 2015 State of the State address in the House chambers of the Kansas Statehouse on Jan. 15.



Presidential Visit

Presidential visit: Maintenance crews from both KDOT and KTA assisted the Secret Service and Kansas Highway Patrol in getting President Obama from Forbes Field in Topeka to his Jan. 22 speaking appearance in Lawrence. Each agency provided dump trucks and drivers helping close off sections of highways for the presidential motorcade. KDOT's District One crews also completed pavement repairs along the motorcade route in advance of the visit. Both agencies and the Patrol also coordinated to limit public view access of roadway cameras located along the motorcade route on both the to/from trips between Topeka and Lawrence. Communications team members also provided tweets and Facebook posts to keep the public updated on the traffic impacts of the motorcade.



KDOT and KTA crews assisted in getting President Barack Obama to Lawrence on Jan. 22 for his speech in the Anshutz Sports Pavilion near Allen Fieldhouse at the University of Kansas. About 7,000 people attended the event. Photo courtesy of the Topeka Capital-Journal

Trivia!

1. There is a monument to the pig that inspired the piggy bank – what town is it in?
 Bonus – what fictional character was named after the pig?
2. Where can you find a collection of more than 10,000 bricks that make up the Yellow Brick Road along a downtown sidewalk?
3. Where is there a six-foot carving of a Pepsi bottle?
4. What's the name of a 60-ton monument of an American buffalo created by Ray Smith near the town of Longford?
5. You can't go to Lucas and not stop by this log cabin with unusual sculptures.

KTA

The K-TAG crew have been busy giving out free K-TAGs and their schedule is picking up. This weekend, the crew will be at the Wichita Sports Show. In February, they will be busy with events including the Women's Fair, Topeka RV and Sport Show and the Park City Chill. They can also be found at their usual places - various tag offices and malls in Wichita and Topeka. Check out Facebook and Twitter for the most current locations and times. Besides these locations, K-TAGs can be ordered online at www.myktag.com, calling 1-800-USE-KTAG, or visiting any Kansas AAA store or The Merc in Lawrence.



Retirees

The following employees retired from KDOT in January.

District One

Kathleen Bird, Engineering Technician, Olathe
Gary Burroughs, Equipment Operator Senior, Emporia
Marlin Hershberger, Engineering Technician, Kansas City
Vernon Lister, Equipment Operator, Edwardsville

District Two

Duane Michaud, Equipment Operator Senior, Concordia
Leland Tice, Area Engineer, Mankato
Daniel Tracy, Equipment Operator Specialist, Concordia

District Three

Charles Crawford, Engineering Technician Midpoint, Hays

Dennis Martin, Equipment Operator, Smith Center

District Four

Edward Clark, Engineering Technician Senior, Garnett
John Hutchison, Engineering Technician Senior, Chanute
Edward Nutt, Equipment Operator Senior, Fort Scott
Ralph Tarter, Equipment Operator Senior, Columbus

District Five

Glen Bennett, Engineering Technician, Winfield

District Six

Maurice Franzen, Equipment Operator, Lakin
LaVerne Spencer, Engineering Technician, Syracuse

District Four



Work continues on the new Elk River Bridge on U.S. 160 in Montgomery County. The bridge is being constructed half at a time. The eastbound lane is now set for the placement of concrete bridge corral rail while one-way traffic is carried on the completed westbound lane. Bridges Inc. of Newton is the contractor on the project, which has a construction cost of \$4.3 million. If the mild winter weather continues, KDOT plans to have the new bridge ready for two-way traffic by the end of February. Work on the project started in December 2014. Stephen Bass's road squad and Mark Hurt's bridge squad are designing the projects.

General



Secretary Mike King read the book, "S is for Sunflower," to a group of children at Clearwater Elementary West on Jan. 26 in Clearwater as part of the Mystery Reader Night program. After reading the book, Secretary King presented a copy of the book to third grader Allison Cleavenger who won the drawing that night.



District One

One bridge comes down, another is being studied:

Bridges crossing the state line in northeast Kansas are jointly shared by KDOT and MoDOT, though the lead authority is alternated. Currently, MoDOT is heading the U.S. 69 Missouri River Bridge design-build replacement project, while KDOT is heading the Route 92 Centennial Bridge study. Both bridges span the Missouri River.



The first section of the U.S. 69 bridge is imploded.

One of the two bridges that is part of the U.S. 69 project – the Fairfax Bridge – is currently under demolition. The two existing bridge structures will be replaced with one new bridge tentatively scheduled for completion by December 2016. The two ends of the bridge were imploded on Jan. 16, and the section over the Missouri River was imploded on Jan. 24. One last implosion of the remaining bridge structure over the levee side in Missouri will take place sometime in late January. Through data collection, cost analysis and public input,

the 16-month Route 92 study will examine options for constructing a four-lane bridge. This includes determining a preferred location, bridge type, associated costs, potential funding mechanisms and conducting a preliminary assessment of the potential environmental impact. In mid-January, KDOT hosted two public open houses to begin gathering public input. Kris Norton's road squad and Chris Myer's bridge squad are designing the projects.

Letters to the Editor

KDOT,

We want to take the time to let everyone at KDOT know how much we appreciate your service to our community and all of the Kansas areas.

With the recent snow storms we've had we realize how much we count on you guys to keep the roads clear and safe for us to drive on. You're out there working in the wee hours of the night and on holidays to make sure everyone gets to the destinations safely. We would like to commend you for that.

Thank you whole heartedly and know that we are praying for all of you over at KDOT.

"Women who Worship"
Gospel Mennonite Church

Dear KDOT,

I'm writing to let you know that your team member Nathan (Equipment Operator Nathan Blankenship from the Sedan office) was immeasurably kind and helpful during last week's icy road's event.

I encountered him just moments after having slid off the highway and I was rattled and too scared to keep driving east on 400. I stopped and asked him for advice and he indicated that roads further south were dry.

I followed in the wake of the KDOT truck for several miles and spent the night in Sedan. He even gave me directions to the motel in Sedan.

Anyway, you have a great guy working for you. Plus, KDOT in general does an awesome job, year after year. Thanks!

Cate

WICHway

WICHway lauded: KDOT's WICHway traffic information site has been recognized by Esri, the world leader in GIS technology. Under a feature titled "Small sites but worth a peek," WICHway was singled out for best use of UI (user interface) in a road conditions website. "Quite a few states use base maps in their apps showing the latest road conditions. This one in the Wichita area has the most impressive user interface. The name is also great: WICHway."

Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of *Translines Express*? Please e-mail your suggestions to translines@ksdot.org

KDOT Blog

Kansas Transportation

Tuesday, January 27, 2015

Where can I find what highway projects are going to be built?

Under the Governor's budget proposal announced Jan. 16, money will be transferred from the State Highway Fund without impacting any of the already-announced KDOT projects. So, how does one find out what's already been announced and where those projects are?

It's simple. Go to the T-WORKS website (T-WORKS is the state's 10-year transportation program), click on the "Projects" tab at the top, and select your search parameter – by county, route, region or the entire state. That will display projects that have already been announced and will be built.

Cost	Project Name	Route	Type	County	Description	Start Date	Letting Date
\$117,000	K-967-06	K-10	Expansion	DC	Access Points (Drachens) on K-10 in Douglas County	Jan-2011	Jan-2011
\$145,000	K-7499-08	US-60	Expansion	RN	Seeding Project in Rensselaer County, US-60	Mar-2014	Oct-2013
\$30,000	KA-4058-01	K-96	Expansion	SG	Interchange development in Sedgewick County	TBD	TBD
\$45,075,000	KA-1005-02	US-166	Expansion	CK	Highway improvements on US-166 in Cherokee County	Sep-2017	Aug-2017

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

Scenic



This giant snowman didn't require a lot of snow, just hay bales, tires and some creativity. It is located on the county road east of Hunter.

District Four



A Union Pacific Railroad employee stands next to one of the derailed cars alongside K-39 in Wilson County. A train with two engines and eight empty cars collided with a grain truck the morning of Jan. 15, derailing the train and shutting down the highway between U.S. 400 and U.S. 75 until the early hours of Jan. 16. The collision also resulted in three injuries, none were serious.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. White Cloud, Wilbur in Charlotte's Web | 3. In Marion County Park |
| 2. Sedan | 4. Smithalo |
| | 5. Garden of Eden |

District Six



A preliminary engineering study is taking place on this section of U.S. 50.

KDOT seeks public input: District Six will conduct a public information open house from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Feb. 5 at the Spearville Middle School/High School as part of a corridor study on U.S. 50 from Dodge City to Kinsley. The section of U.S. 50 was identified during local consultation meetings in 2012 as an area of regional and local concern. In February 2013, Gov. Sam Brownback and Secretary Mike King announced a

preliminary engineering project on the 34-mile corridor. The current study is looking at the need for expansion or modernization, including the possibility of adding passing lane sections. Additionally, the community of Spearville has asked KDOT to consider intersection improvements, turning lanes or other changes to the highway at Spearville. Stephen Bass's road squad and John Jones's bridge squad are designing the projects.

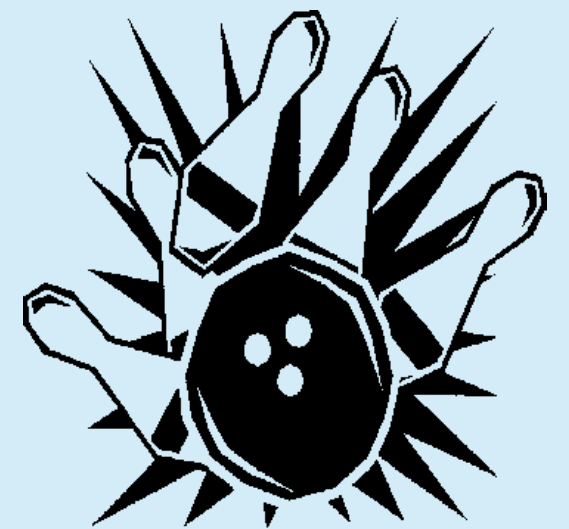
Kansas State Map

Copies of the 2015-2016 Kansas Official State Transportation Map are stacked and ready to be folded at the State Printer's office in Topeka. In the background, Manager of Operations at the State Printer Steve Lindsay, Teresa Jenkins with Jones Huyett Partners, KDOT Cartographer Elaine Bryant and Richard Smalley with the Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism do a press check on the map. Copies of the new map should be available for the public in mid February.



CRAZY BOWL

- When: **Sunday, Feb. 15, at 2 p.m.**
 - Cost: **\$7.50 per person, free shoe rental**
 - Deadline to sign up: NOON, Feb. 11**
- To sign up: **Bring team money (\$30) to Kim Stich in Public Affairs**
- Who: **Teams consisting of 4 people** (KDOT employees, friends and family members are welcome to participate - it is just for fun)
 - Where: **Gage Bowl** (Huntoon Street west of Gage Boulevard, Topeka)



What is "Crazy Bowl?" People participating in the Employees' Council Crazy Bowl event bowl three games. The first two games are bowled normally. The third game is the "crazy" part. Each frame is different - one time you bowl backwards, the next time you bowl on one leg, etc. And the only rule is that you relax and have fun!

For more details or to sign up, contact Kim Stich at 296-3585 or your Employees' Council representative.