

# Translines EXPRESS

Nov. 4, 2015

## District Five

### U.S. 54/I-235 interchange project begins:

A groundbreaking ceremony on Oct. 21 marked the beginning of KDOT's U.S. 54/I-235 interchange reconstruction project in Wichita. Dubbed the Red Project, it is one of four phases that will improve U.S. 54 from Dugan to West streets and I-235 from K-42 to Central Avenue.

Work is expected to begin Nov. 16 with traffic impacts on West Street at U.S. 54. Lane and ramp closures will affect the

entire interchange area until the planned completion date in June 2019.

I-235 flyover ramps to U.S. 54, removal and addition of loop ramps, U.S. 54 bridge widening and other improvements will be a part of this expansion project. Dondlinger Construction of Wichita is the prime contractor on the \$103 million project. Sedgwick County provided \$11.6 million as a local match to the project.

Project information can be found at [www.235kelloggcentral.com](http://www.235kelloggcentral.com).



*Above, KDOT officials take part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the U.S. 54/I-235 interchange project. At left, Secretary Mike King speaks at the event about the benefits of the project to the area.*

## Royals Trivia!

### Kansas City Royals records - 2015 postseason

1. How many times did they come from behind to win?
2. How many times did the Royals come back from multiple-run deficits?
3. How many runs did the Royals score in the seventh inning or later?
4. How many World Series games did they win after trailing in the eighth inning?
5. Lorenzo Cain broke the Royals' record of stolen bases - how many did he steal, and what other Royals players held the previous record?
6. Eric Hosmer passes George Brett as Royals all-time postseason RBI leader. What was Brett's record? What is Hosmer's record?



## HealthQuest Deadline

The deadline to earn 30 credits and receive your HealthQuest premium incentive discount for 2016 is Sunday, Nov. 15 - don't miss out!

Go to the HealthQuest website at [www.kansashealthquest.com/](http://www.kansashealthquest.com/)

## District Four



**Shoulder work is underway on a highway widening and resurfacing project on U.S. 59 in Labette County. The 8.3-mile road work starts at the west junction of U.S. 59/U.S. 160 and continues north to Parsons. The shoulders will be extended to 10 feet and paved with asphalt. The project will shut down over the winter months, and the mill and asphalt overlay on the mainline will be completed in 2016. The decks of two bridges along this section are also being patched and resurfaced. Shilling Construction of Manhattan is the contractor, and the work should be finished by summer 2016.**

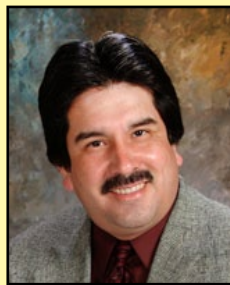


Nov. 1 marks the one-year anniversary of easier travel between Kansas and Oklahoma thanks to compatibility between K-TAG and PIKEPASS. Nearly 2.5 million trips have been made through this agreement, with more than 1.5 million trips being PIKEPASS customers coming to Kansas.

## District Six

### Cruz named to fellowship class:

Tim Cruz, District Six Safety Specialist, has been named to the 2016 Sunflower Foundation Advocacy Fellowship class, along with 14 other community leaders across Kansas. The Sunflower Foundation is a charitable organization that works to create healthier communities throughout the state, including equipping leaders with advocacy skills, which is the goal of the Advocacy Fellowship.



**Tim Cruz**

Cruz says it's always good to meet people from around the state and learn from them and see what other communities are doing to get better. "I want to learn how we can make Kansas healthier and what can we do here in Garden City to make our community healthier."

He also serves on the board of the Garden City Public Schools and is president on the board of the Kansas Health Institute.

Cruz says he believes in serving the community and volunteering wherever he can.

## Federal Grant

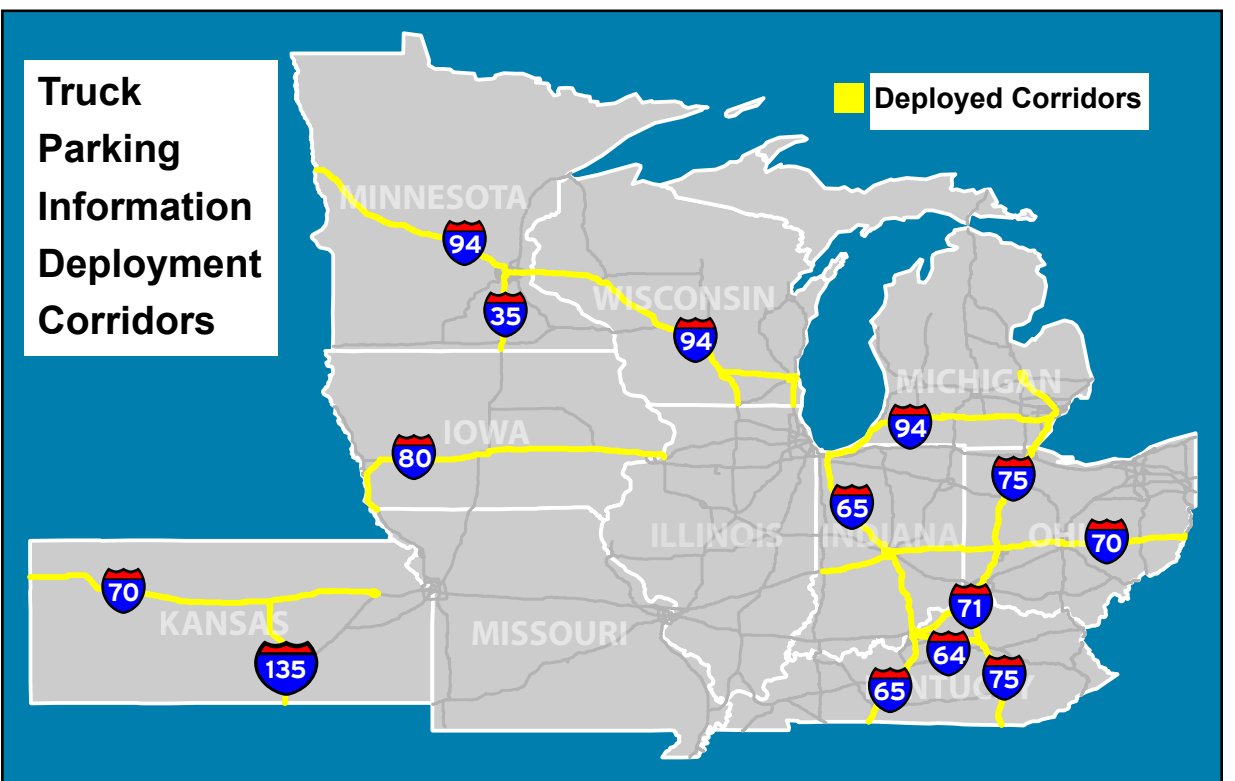
### 8 states address truck parking:

A \$25 million federal grant to address critical truck parking issues in the Midwest has been awarded to a consortium of Kansas and seven other states.

The Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant was awarded to the Mid America Association of State

Transportation Officials (MAASTO) to develop the multi-state Truck Parking Information and Management System (TPIMS). Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin will also receive funding.

The grant was announced Oct. 29 in Wichita by Federal Highway Administrator Gregory Nadeau. Kansas was the lead applicant among the states. Safety issues arise when trucks park along key freight corridors, causing overflow onto the shoulders of rest area ramps, freeway ramps and adjacent roads. Often there may be adequate parking elsewhere along the route, but no real-time



information is available to let truckers know where that might be.

The TPIMS will disseminate parking information on electronic message signs, traveler information websites and smart phone applications. In Kansas, the system will include information about parking along I-70 and I-135. KDOT expects to receive about \$3.3 million in federal funds and will



**Federal Highway Administrator Gregory Nadeau speaks to the media at the news conference in Wichita to announce the \$25 million federal grant.**



## TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Eight times
2. Seven times
3. 51 runs
4. Three games
5. Cain stole six bases. The previous record was four stolen

bases, held by Alex Gordon, Amos Otis and Willie Wilson.  
6. Brett had 23 postseason RBIs. Hosmer now has 29 postseason RBIs.

## Kansas Transportation

Tuesday, Oct. 27

### The Secrets of Southeast Kansas: Mined Land Wildlife Area

Those old strip mines carved through the landscape are no longer scenes of utter desolation. They've become lakes brimming with fish and rich in waterfowl. Adjoining wetlands, native grasslands, oak and hickory forests are now home to deer, wild turkey, quail, cottontail rabbit, fox and mink. This is the Mined Land Wildlife Area, a devastation-to-restoration story that plays out over 14,500 acres in Cherokee, Crawford and Labette counties.

The Mined Land Wildlife Area includes 46 tracts of land. The land was reclaimed following the departure of the coal companies, which had surface mined in the region from the late 1800's through the early 1970's. The 200-plus strip mine lakes vary in size and depth and are filled with different kinds of sportfish. In addition to fishing and hunting, camping and canoeing are permitted on many of the tracts. So grab your fishing pole or hunter's gear, binoculars and hiking boots, load up the boat



or canoe – and prepare to enjoy some quality time on beautifully restored wildlife habitat in the southeastern corner of the state. For additional information go to [www.ksoutdoors.com](http://www.ksoutdoors.com).

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

### District Six

Garden City subarea crew members pave the CDL testing site used by the Kansas Department of Revenue's Drivers' License office in Garden City to test commercial truck drivers.



### District Four



The new U.S. 54 railroad overpass east of Yates Center opened on Oct. 16. Cutting the ceremonial ribbon prior to the grand opening were, from left, Woodson County Commissioners Bud Moore and Galen Yoho, KDOT District Four Engineer Wayne Gudmonson, County Commissioner John Weseloh, County Road and Bridge Supervisor Dane Onnen, KDOT Iola Area Engineer Darrin Petrowsky and B. J. Harlan of contractor A.M. Cohron & Son. The overpass had been closed for replacement since last spring.

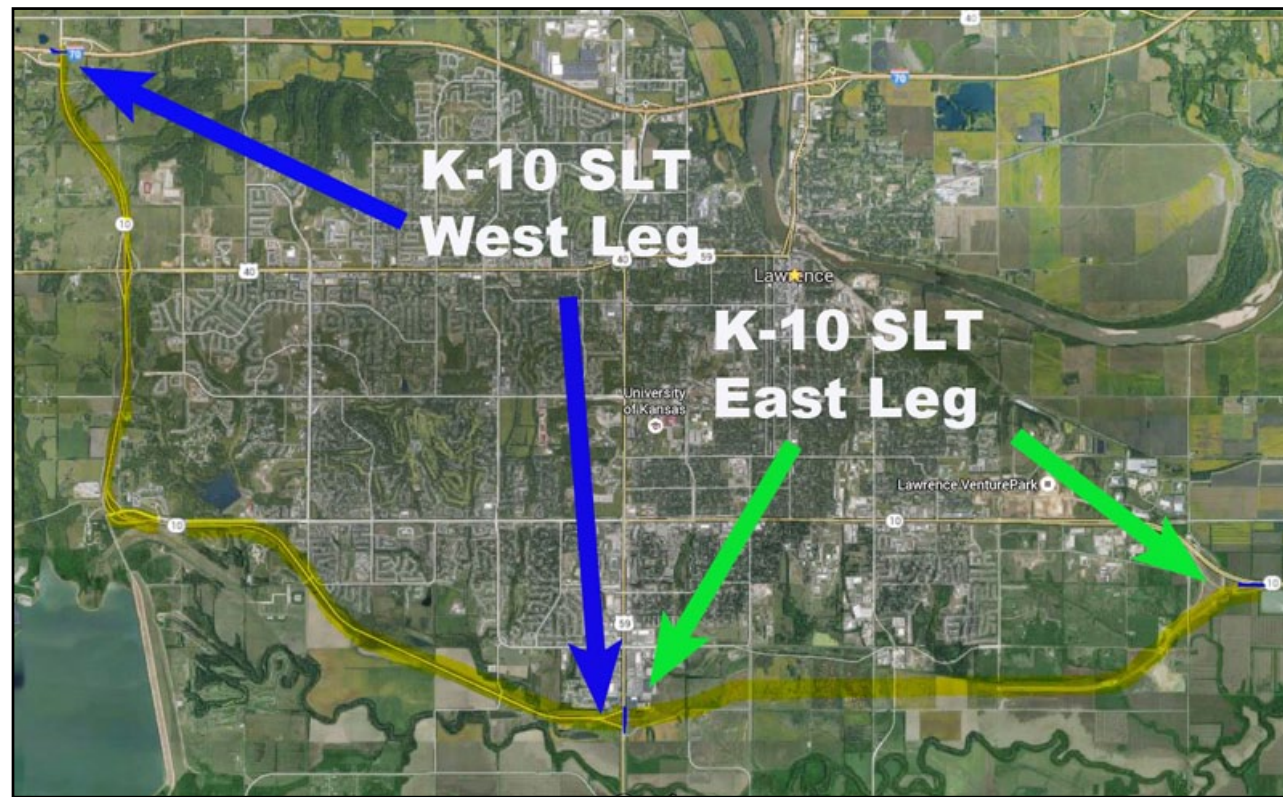
### District Six

Willy Phelps, Dodge City Subarea Supervisor, demonstrates how to properly put on tire chains during snow and ice training at District Six. Around 30 Equipment Operators and Engineering Technicians from around the district took part in the two-day training class. Topics included KDOT's snow and ice policy, plowing procedures, decision making and winter safety. For some it was a refresher course, and for others, the first opportunity to get classroom training in fighting snow and ice.



**District One**

A study is taking place on the west leg of the South Lawrence Trafficway while work continues on the east leg.



SLT: A KDOT study is underway to develop a preferred solution to upgrade the K-10 west leg South Lawrence Trafficway (SLT) to a four-lane access controlled freeway from I-70/Kansas Turnpike to Iowa Street/U.S. 59 in Lawrence. This means existing at-grade intersections will be eliminated or changed to grade-separated interchanges. KDOT developed two alternatives - a northern section with options at I-70 and K-10 and a southern section of the corridor from 6th Street/U.S. 40 to Iowa Street/U.S. 59. In late October, the alternatives were presented at an

open house. Once the report is completed later this year, preliminary design is scheduled to begin in early 2016. Construction on the K-10 east leg is in its second year and is on schedule. It includes a new four-lane access controlled freeway connecting K-10 from the Iowa Street/U.S. 59 junction to the existing K-10 roadway on the eastern edge of Lawrence. This \$129.8 million expansion project is scheduled to be completed in fall 2016. Information on the study and the current construction are available at: <http://www.ksdot.org/bureaus/TopekaMetro/projectstudytest.asp>



**District Four**

This fall KDOT completed a geometric improvement in the city of Weir. The GI project reconstructed K-103 (Main Street) from Lincoln to Jefferson streets. B & B Bridge Company of St. Paul was primary contractor on the project, which had a construction cost of \$583,000.

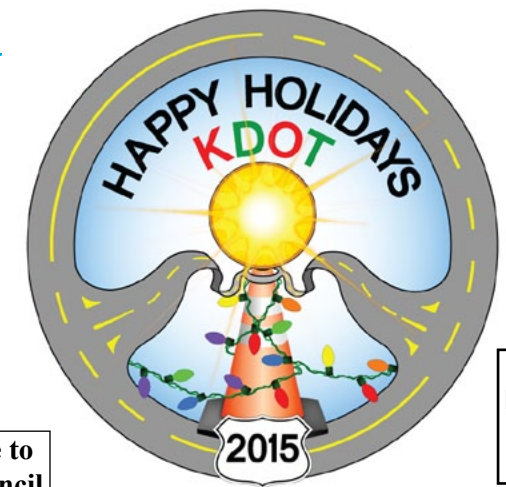
**KTA**



Even though the warm weather may be lingering, KTA snowplow operators are preparing for the inevitable winter season. On Oct. 15 and 16, KTA Safety Coordinator Merlin Eck gave KTA maintenance staff various safety presentations, showed video demonstrations and spoke about the use of materials in Wichita.

**★ Don't Miss Out! ★**  
**Celebrate with a 2015 KDOT holiday ornament!**

**★ KDOT Ceramic Holiday Ornament ★**



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**Districts/Retirees:** Mail completed form and check to -

Ruby Hilton, KDOT, 700 SW Harrison,  
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# Order Form for Past Year's Holiday Ornaments



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Ornament	Quantity	Cost Each	Total
2010		\$5.00	
<del>2011</del>	----- SOLD OUT -----		
2012		\$5.00	
2013		\$5.00	
2014		\$5.00	
<b>Total Paid:</b>			

Please Print -

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Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks payable to  
Employees' Council

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Supply is limited on ornaments from previous years - first come, first serve