

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation news release

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KDOT submits applications for TIGER funding

The Kansas Department of Transportation has submitted applications totaling \$262 million for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant funding for surface transportation projects.

Applications for the new grant program, which was authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, were due by Sept. 15. Eligible projects include highway or bridge work, public transportation projects, passenger and rail freight infrastructure projects and port infrastructure projects.

“These projects support the economic goals of the state and have the potential to create long-term economic benefits along with thousands of jobs,” said Chris Herrick, KDOT Director of Planning and Development.

The Kansas projects and the amount of TIGER funding being sought are detailed below:

➤ **Kansas City Intermodal Facility (KCIMF). Request for \$50 million**

The facility will transfer highway semi-trailers and containers between trains and trucks. The project will replace an aged intermodal terminal with a new 443-acre intermodal

facility featuring wide-span cranes, automatic gate systems and In-Motion scales to provide rapid, efficient, low-emission transfer of containers between rail and truck.

The KCIMF will be located near Edgerton, 25 miles southwest of Kansas City and adjacent to the BNSF Railway transcontinental main line linking Chicago and Los Angeles. KCIMF will generate sustainable job growth, energy savings, congestion relief and environmental benefits.

➤ **K-18 between Manhattan and Ogden. Request for \$79.8 million**

Stimulus funding for K-18 will help KDOT build a four-lane freeway that is desperately needed and will support and facilitate the significant population and economic growth taking place in the region. This new four-lane freeway will connect rapidly growing Fort Riley to the City of Manhattan, site of the new National Bio Agro-defense Facility, and provide a new connection to the Manhattan Regional Airport.

K-18, with a 24 percent growth in traffic from 2000-2008, is one of the fastest growing corridors in Kansas. With explosive growth in the region, traffic on K-18 is expected to grow from 25,750 vehicles per day in 2010 to around 36,900 vehicles per day in 2030, a 43 percent growth.

➤ **U.S. 54 Kingman Bypass. Request \$87.5 million**

The project is a 10.5-mile bypass around Kingman, which will be built as a four-lane divided highway with full access control on new alignment bypassing the city to the north.

This project is part of a larger corridor improvement effort from the junction of U.S. 54 and U.S. 400 near Mullinville to east of Kingman. It will help serve future traffic demand, address the effects of heavy commercial vehicle traffic, improve the overall safety of the highway corridor and improve system continuity.

➤ **Great Plains freight rail service improvement. Request \$44.4 million**

This project is composed of complementary freight railroad infrastructure capital investment components to be performed in 2010 and 2011 on the infrastructure of the South Kansas and Oklahoma and Stillwater Central railroads in Kansas and Oklahoma.

The project will enable heavier trains and faster train speeds that will benefit the regional and national economy for decades to come. This is a joint application submitted by Kansas and Oklahoma as a project of regional and national significance.

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700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.