

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kansans invited to participate in statewide transportation meetings

A series of regional meetings that give Kansans the opportunity to discuss their transportation priorities with members of Governor Kathleen Sebelius' transportation task force have been scheduled throughout the month of September.

The eight local consultation meetings, which begin Sept. 11 at Ulysses, will include collaborative, regional discussions on highway and other modal needs (rail, aviation, transit, bike/pedestrian) in the morning. In the afternoon, there will be an opportunity for communities to testify about their particular projects or concerns.

"It is important that the discussion at these meetings be elevated to the regional and state levels," said Kansas Department of Transportation Secretary Deb Miller. "We will also have a conversation about how transportation should be paid for and what funding approaches Kansans will support."

The meetings will be conducted by KDOT staff and include representatives of the Governor's task force - Transportation – Leveraging Investments in Kansas (T-LINK). Although the full 35-member T-LINK task force, charged with developing a new strategic transportation approach for Kansas, will not be present at each meeting, a number of task force members will participate in each session.

KDOT also conducted of a series of local consultation meetings two years ago to hear what types of projects were important to communities.

“It’s time to go back to communities to determine if any economic or transportation needs have changed in the last two years and to continue discussions about regional priorities,” Miller said. “Clearly, there will always be more needs than funding, so it’s important to think about how transportation investments best support statewide needs.”

All meetings will begin at 8:30 a.m. Summaries of each local consultation meeting will be posted on the T-LINK Web site at www.kansastlink.com. The Web site also includes full summaries of T-LINK meetings, schedules and much more. The following is the schedule of local consultation meetings:

Sept. 11 – Ulysses

Grant County Civic Center
1000 W. Patterson Ave.

Sept. 12 – Hays

Holiday Inn & Convention Center
3603 Vine St.

Sept. 18 – Abilene

Sterl Hall
Central Kansas State Fairgrounds
619 N. Rogers

Sept. 19 – Topeka

Ramada Inn
420 E. 6th St.

Sept. 22 – Olathe

Holiday Inn & Convention Center
101 W. 151st St.

Sept. 23 – Hutchinson (*new date*)

Convention Center,
Grand Prairie Hotel
1400 N. Lorraine

Sept. 26 - Pittsburg

Lamplighter Inn & Suites
4020 Parkview Dr.

Sept. 30 – Wichita (*new date*)

Wichita State University
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex
5015 E. 29th St. North

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