

NEWS RELEASE

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New state transportation program will preserve system and create thousands of jobs

T-WORKS, the comprehensive transportation program passed by the 2010 Kansas Legislature, will not only preserve and improve the state's transportation system, it will create tens of thousands of jobs.

"T-WORKS is good for the safety of Kansans and the economic goals of the state, and I want to commend legislators for supporting this bill," said Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller.

"It will create jobs, has a sound, common sense funding approach, and will allow us to protect Kansans' investment in their transportation system. While T-WORKS is smaller than the last two transportation programs, it is appropriate for the times.:

The \$8.2 billion T-WORKS program includes \$2.7 billion in new revenues during the 10-year plan. The new revenues will come from increased registration fees for heavy trucks, additional bonding authority for KDOT and a sales tax deposit that takes effect in 2013.

It is estimated that T-WORKS will create or sustain 175,000 jobs in Kansas over the next 10 years. The program passed by the Legislature provides 100 percent, or \$4.5 billion, of the highway preservation funding recommended by T-LINK, the governor's transportation task force, ensuring that every mile of Kansas highway will see some preservation work. It also sets aside \$1.7 billion in new construction funds.

T-WORKS also provides \$6 million a year for public transit services, which increases to \$11 million a year in 2013, and \$3 million a year in aviation funding, which increases to \$5 million in 2013. The bill requires that KDOT spend a minimum of \$8 million in each county in Kansas during the course of the program.

The bill gives KDOT the authority to manage debt under a debt service cap of 18 percent. The cap ensures that the amount the State Highway Fund (SHF) owes in debt service in any given year does not exceed 18 percent of the expected SHF revenues.

"There are many more transportation needs than this bill can cover," Secretary Miller said, "but T-WORKS will allow us to make strategic improvements that will produce short- and long-term benefits to the state."

To see details of the T-WORKS program, visit the Kansas Online Community – KTOC – at www.ktoc.net, or click [here](#).

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