



## **\$776 Million in Highway Improvement Projects Announced**

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Transportation stakeholders,

Please see the email below from KDOT about exciting project announcements made last week. This is truly an exciting time for transportation!

Scott Heidner  
Executive Director  
Economic Lifelines  
825 S Kansas Ave, Suite 500  
Topeka, KS 66612  
[scott@economiclifelines.com](mailto:scott@economiclifelines.com)

## Message from KDOT

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This week, I joined Governor Laura Kelly to announce 24 highway modernization and expansion projects across the state - totaling \$776 million – that will be constructed in the next three years. This is the first set of projects to move into the IKE construction pipeline.

These projects represent the principles of IKE because they were built by partnerships, provide Kansans more options and ultimately will solve problems for communities. All these projects either have a local funding contribution or the community opted for a smaller, cost-effective approach. [You can learn more about these great projects by clicking here.](#)

I want to clarify that though we are excited about these new projects, we remain committed to previously announced projects. That means that all T-WORKS projects will have construction underway before these 24 new projects begin. Additionally, please note that there are still 16 projects that remain in the IKE development pipeline. KDOT will continue to work with communities to strengthen these projects so they can move into the construction pipeline in the coming years.

IKE is a rolling program, which means annually we will move projects from the development pipeline to the construction pipeline as funding allows. And every two years, we will add more projects to our development pipeline based on your input at our local consult meetings. Stay tuned for an invite to our next round of local consult meetings to be held this fall. We hope to see you all there.

This week we made announcements in Dodge City, Wichita, Topeka and Overland Park and had the opportunity to celebrate with Kansans. Regardless of where we were, Kansans had a shared appreciation of what infrastructure improvements means: safer travel for our loved ones, more economic opportunities, and stronger communities that more people will be proud to call home.

It's been a great week for Kansas. And I want to share the three key reasons that brought this to fruition:

**1.) A bipartisan plan shaped by Kansans.** More than 2,000 Kansans participated in the discussions that led to the creation of IKE.

**2.) Governor Kelly and a bipartisan group of state legislators**

**securing adequate funding.** Governor Kelly has developed state budgets that have closed the bank of KDOT and without her leadership and a bipartisan group of legislators willing to support transportation investments – we would not be here today.

**3.) KDOT driving the implementation of these projects with public sector principles and private sector urgency.** These 24 projects were added to our development pipeline 14 months ago and now will begin construction within the next three years. That does not happen without KDOT staff and contractors working hard to deliver more for Kansans.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this happen: Governor Kelly, state legislators and local officials who secured the funding for these projects, KDOT staff and contractors who continue to work hard to deliver these projects and most importantly to all the Kansans who advocated for these projects that will make our state stronger for generations to come.

Julie L. Lorenz  
Secretary of Transportation  
Director of Kansas Turnpike Authority



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OFFICE:(785) 233-4512 EMAIL: [economiclifelines@gmail.com](mailto:economiclifelines@gmail.com),  
ADDRESS: 825 S. Kansas Ave., Ste. 500, Topeka, KS 66612