



Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA): KDOT Update

Transportation stakeholders,

Please see the note below from KDOT Secretary Julie Lorenz about the recently passed bipartisan Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) and what it means for Kansas transportation.

Scott Heidner
Executive Director
Economic Lifelines
825 S Kansas Ave, Suite 500
Topeka, KS 66612
scott@economiclifelines.com

Message from KDOT

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Last Friday, Congress passed the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) and there's rightfully been significant interest in what this means for Kansas transportation. The short answer is this is great news for Kansas.

KDOT staff are currently analyzing the bill, which is over 2,700 pages long. Later this year, we will announce which projects will be added to the IKE development pipeline and provide a more thorough update on what IIJA will mean for Kansas. However, in the spirit of partnership, we wanted to share what we do know about the bill at this point. Below is a breakdown of the additional dollars KDOT will administer:

	Annual Funding Increase
HIGHWAYS: Federal-aid highway funding	\$89 million
BRIDGES: Funds targeted for bridges in poor/fair condition.	\$45 million
ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE: For electric vehicle infrastructure and to electrify transit fleets.	\$8 million
RURAL TRANSIT: KDOT administers rural transit funds	\$3.7 million
TOTAL	\$145.7 million

Please note that these are preliminary estimates, and the bill also includes existing federal discretionary grant programs, such as RAISE, INFRA and CRISI. Our staff will be reviewing the bill thoroughly over the next few weeks to find what new opportunities there will be for Kansas. We will not only view through the lens of what works best for KDOT, I will also ask staff to look for opportunities for local governments too. We will **host workshops** in the coming months to share what we've learned and discuss partnering opportunities to maximize grant awards.

We have been entrusted to invest these tax dollars wisely and make them serve our state for generations. And we will be **accountable for these dollars**. We will outline metrics in the coming weeks for how you can track our progress, and I want you to hold us accountable. As a preview, I will say we want to focus these dollars to achieve these **goals**:

1. **Save lives by making our roads safer.** 353 people have died on our roads this year alone. Unacceptable. We must do better.
2. **Reduce transportation costs for people and goods.** Too many people spend too much of their income just getting to work. And by reducing the cost of transporting goods we reduce grocery bills and create a competitive advantage for local businesses.
3. **Innovate our infrastructure to generate more economic growth.** We will use technology to open new markets for Kansans.

Kansas is especially well positioned for this moment. **Because Kansans, legislators, and Governor Kelly did the hard work of crafting, passing, and funding the IKE program, we stand ready to deliver game-changing results for Kansans.**

We are grateful for the opportunity to work with you all to strengthen communities large and small across our state. Stay tuned for more information soon.

Thank you.

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