

Kansas Good Roads, Inc.

PROPONENT TESTIMONY

SB 116

**Decreasing the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program
alternate delivery project threshold; authorizing use of Federal stimulus funds and
KDOT bonding authority**

**Whitney Damron
On behalf of Kansas Good Roads, Inc.
February 16, 2021**

Chairman Petersen and Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation:

Aside from public protection legislation relating to the state's Covid-19 challenges, perhaps the most substantive bill passed by the 2020 Legislature was the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program. That bill was approved literally in the waning hours of the regular session and most parties would agree there may have been a few issues that could have benefitted from a little more time and consideration. One issue is the limitations contained in the bill for the use of alternative delivery in regard to bidding, contract, design and building of transportation-related infrastructure.

Key language in the bill before you today will allow "...the Secretary of KDOT to let any modernization or expansion projects under the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program that utilize federal stimulus funds regardless of whether transportation works for Kansas program projects, or any phase thereof. The crux of the bill is to allow for this tool on smaller projects than allowed under the original Act.

Alternative delivery allows designers and contactors to work together to work collaboratively towards developing the best proposals to build projects faster and make better use of limited resources. By interlayering both design and construction, projects can be completed faster with less disruption for commuters and bring about transportation enhancements in a timelier manner.

We do not know what the new administration and Congress will bring to forward in the way of infrastructure and transportation, but in all likelihood, we will see additional Federal spending in this area and with HB 2201 in the statute books, the Secretary will have greater flexibility for projects in our state that will be of great benefit to Kansans and stretch KDOT and local funding further than without this flexibility.

On behalf of Kansas Good Roads, we ask for your favorable consideration of this legislation.

Thank you.

WBD

Kansas Good Roads, Inc.

919 South Kansas Avenue ♦ Topeka, Kansas 66612-1210 ♦ (785) 354-1354 ♦ wbdamron@gmail.com

An association created to promote good roads in Kansas for all, by those who build them for people who use them.