

MINUTES OF THE SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Donovan at 8:30 A.M. on January 18 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

Committee members absent: Phil Journey- excused  
Anthony Hensley- excused

Committee staff present: Hank Avila, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Bruce Kinzie, Revisors of Statutes  
Maggie Breen, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Secretary Deb Miller, Department of Transportation

Other Attending:  
See attached list.

**Overview of KDOT**

Secretary of Kansas Department of Transportation, Deb Miller, introduce staff members: Marcie Ferrell, Chief, Management and Budget; Ken Gudenkauf, Legislative Liaison; and Warren Sick, State Transportation Engineer. Secretary Miller handed out paper copies of a slide presentation and walked the committee through the information. (Attachment 1) Among the many interesting facts she presented are the following:

- There are 10,000 miles of state highways
- Due to our geographical location, there are very heavy freight flows across our state highways
- KDOT has 3,200 employees
- The state is divided into 6 highway districts
- State and local transportation systems are linked physically and functionally
- State highway system makes up 8% of total public road miles in Kansas
- This 8% of public road miles carries 59% of all of the travel
- Total state highway funds are comprised of funds from:
  - Motor fuels tax
  - Federal funds
  - Vehicle registration fees
  - Bonds
  - Sales tax direct deposit
  - Local matching funds
  - Other (drivers license fees, etc)
  - Sales tax transfer

- A Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP) Passed in 1999
  - \$5.5 Billion for State Highway Construction Program
  - \$2.8 Billion for Local Transportation Program
  - Sales Tax Transfer Reductions due to Economic Downturn
  - Funding at a Crossroads in 2004 - Sales Tax Transfer Statutory Rates Not Met
  - KDOT Streamlined CTP by \$800 Million before asking for additional funds
  - 2004 Session Restored Financial Integrity
  - Funding Mix for CTP has changed
  - CTP Boosts the Kansas Economy
  - Of the \$5.5 Billion Highway Construction Program, \$2.9 Billion completed
- KDOT is now located at 700 SW Harrison, Eisenhower State Office Building

Secretary Miller said there are many other things going on at KDOT that she will cover at a future time including: other modes of transportation (rail, transit, aviation), 800MHz, KDOT Partnership Project and KDOT streamlining, innovations, and improvements. One important issue she will definitely be back for is the increasing highway fatality rate.

**Introduction of bill**

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE Senate Transportation Committee at 8:30 A.M. on January 18 in Room 120-S of the Capitol.

Carmen Alldritt, Director, Department of Revenue, Division of Vehicles, said her division has one piece of legislation this year. On your license plate it says essentially "SAM 123." There are approximately 17 million possible combinations and they are nearly exhausted. If the Secretary of Revenue were allowed to assign the combination and arrangement of numbers and letters, they could use "123 SAM" or whatever combination they would decide in the future.

Senator Gilstrap moved to introduce the bill. Senator O'Connor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 20.