

kcConnections



A publication of MoDOT Kansas City District

March 26-30, 2012

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KC District Calendar:

March 26-28
ITS Heartland Conference
Intercontinental Hotel, KC

March 26-30
MoDOT's Management Development
Institute
Osage Beach

Wednesday, March 28
KC District Management Meeting
9-11:30 a.m., Boardroom

Tuesday, April 3
Northland Area Team Meeting
9-11:30 a.m., Room 236

Everywhere Are Signs

Every sign now logged for the KC District

Signs, signs, everywhere are signs. This is more than the opening line to the song "Signs" by "Five Man Electrical Band," it is reality for the KC District's Traffic Department. Recently, the district completed a one-year evaluation and logging of every sign owned and operated by MoDOT in the district. These signs include those on our roadway and housed at every facility. This was the necessary first step in preparing for the implementation of the new Sign Management System (SMS).

What is SMS? It is a comprehensive set of tools and applications for Traffic to effectively manage signs and assemblies. This system will provide a more efficient way for replacing signs and keep our

costs down by tracking the current inventory of signs not in use. These tools include:

- Master Sign Catalog
- Assembly Locator tool for receiving GPS positioning and other basic data about sign assemblies
- Collection Editor tool to complete the assembly information and record it in a central database
- Web Services application to retrieve data from the SMS databases

Essentially, traffic employees can see what assemblies are located in the field, view a complete sign catalog, view warehouse inventory, generate

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Signs

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requisitions, and view current work orders...all from one location. Primarily, this will account for every sign, its location and help in the inspection process, while ensuring that every sign on our system is where it should be. Signs give motorists direction and help ensure safe travel; therefore, it is important to know where signs are located and if they need to be replaced.

Thanks to the hard work from the entire Traffic Department, construction and survey technicians, all the signs for the KC District have been logged. One year and a one team effort have accounted for more than 120,000 signs. Phew, that is a lot of signs and not an easy task to complete.

How'd they do that? Logging each sign and identifying its location through GPS required more than the push of a button. For an accurate result, this required a visit to each and every sign

in the district. Each person or team had GPS units plugged into a laptop, and drove every route in the district to find all signs. That's more than 8,200 miles district wide. Each sign was identified, logged into the computer, and later entered into the sign catalog and uploaded to the central database.

What's next? In the near future, the other applications will be applied to complete the management system. These include:

- Warehouse Inventory application, which manages the assembly and sign inventories in the District warehouses and the Central Office Sign Shop.
- Sign Requisition application to trace a request for an assembly or sign through shipment, using any existing inventory within the district before being sent to the Sign Shop for production.

- Assembly Inspection tool used to inspect signs on the roadways. All 120,000 plus signs will be inspected and using this tool, employees will generate any work orders for the replacement of signs, plumbing of sign posts, and/or removing brush for better visibility of the signs.
- Work Orders to track all of the tasks necessary to repair or replace signs and assemblies along the roadways.
- Production Scheduling for the Sign Shop to allow the Sign Shop to better schedule the production of signs, manage the raw materials used in the signs, and the use of Sign Shop personnel.

Now that the sign logs are complete, the new SMS application will provide valuable tools to help keep our roadways safe and contribute to a more efficient process that saves time and money.

Select Assembly

[New Search](#) [View Map](#)

Select	Travelway	Log Mile	Latitude	Longitude	County	Status	Status Date
	IS 470 E	0.026	38.93836	-94.54232	JACKSON	Unspecified	08/10/2011
	IS 470 E	0.085	38.93831	-94.54121	JACKSON	Unspecified	08/10/2011
	IS 470 E	0.182	38.93823	-94.53943	JACKSON	Unspecified	08/10/2011

This is an example of the Sign Management System recently implemented statewide. The inventory list includes every sign in the state, more than 348,000 sign assemblies. In the KC District, there are more than 120,000 signs and 46,430 sign assemblies across our 8,200 miles. Over a one-year time frame, and with the help of several KC District employees, every route was driven and every sign logged to complete the task of locating every sign in the district.

K-State Engineering Students Visit District Office



Twenty-seven students from K-State skipped the sandy beaches and opted for an "alternative" spring break designed to expose them to careers in engineering. Their Monday, March 19 stop included MoDOT's Kansas City District office where they toured the construction and materials lab and Kansas City Scout traffic operations center. In 2010 and 2011, K-State's MoDOT tours included stops at the kcICON design-build project office and the Christopher S. Bond Bridge construction site.



Quarterly Supervisors' Meeting

KC District's supervisors gathered in Lee's Summit March 21 for their quarterly meeting. District Engineer Dan Niec (standing) kicked off the meeting by highlighting four focus areas to include workforce planning, fiscal year 2013-2017 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) development, summer operations work plan and the district Tracker. Niec also discussed the district's 2012 business plan. "I expect supervisors to lead their work units, take action, make decisions and take ownership (of those decisions)," said Niec.



Bolder 5-Year Direction Timeline

2012

- **January-March 2012:** SG 6-10 positions (technicians and support) filled competitively.
- **April-May 2012:** SG 1-5 positions (support) filled competitively.
- **December 31:** all facility, equipment and operational changes complete.

2013

- **March 31:** all employee reassignments, staff reductions complete.

Bolder 5-Year Direction Questions?

- Visit: wwwwi/intranet/hr/
- E-mail: SalaryGrade6-10@modot.mo.gov
- E-mail: SalaryGrade1-5@modot.mo.gov
- Contact your KC District HR representative

kcConnections sources

- Construction** Bev Chrisco, 607-2101
- Regional Counsel** LeAnn Francis, 607-2082
- Administration** Sherri McGregor, 607-2184
- General Services** Jody Jordan, 347-4100
- Human Resources** Amy Gagne, 607-2145
- Information Systems** JoAnn MacKay, 607-2096
- Right of Way** Dana O'Malley, 607-2056
- Traffic** Melanie Lanigan, 607-2171
- Editor** Kerri Lewis, 607-2151

Find MoDOT KC on Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

Save the DATE!!!!

The district has some great events in the near future, so mark your calendar with these important dates.

March 26-28

Intelligent Transportation Systems Heartland Chapter Annual Meeting Hosted by KC Scout

April 13, 16-18, 20, 24, & 27 (tentative)

**Spring Employee Meetings
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., location TBD**

Week of April 23-27

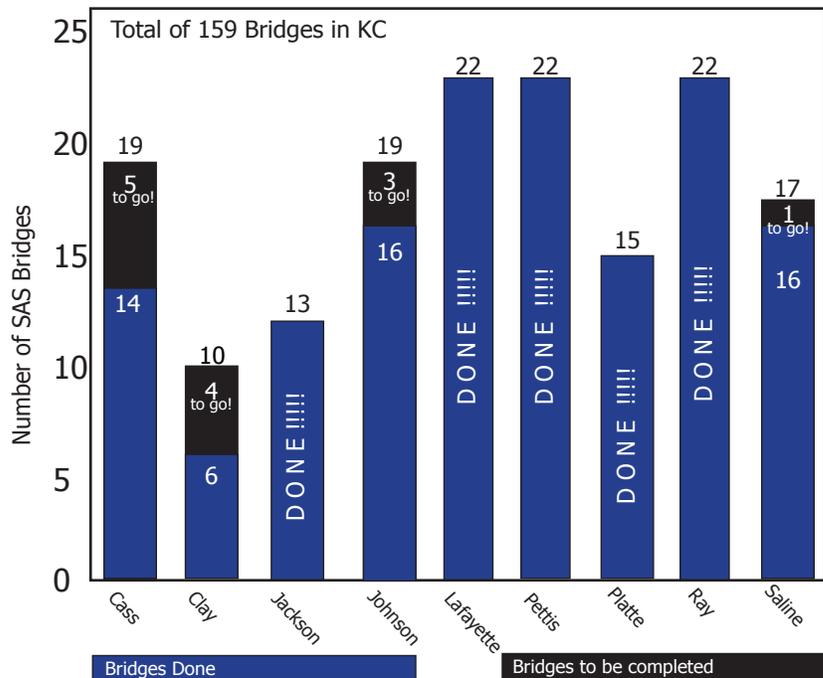
Work Zone Safety Awareness Week

Thursday, April 26

**Bring Your Child to Work Day
Big Truck Night**

Keep an eye out for more information to come!

KC Safe & Sound Bridges On the Rise to Completion



Safety First - Keep an Eye to Safety

According to government statistics, more than 2,000 workers suffer eye injuries on the job every day. In the KC District, we experience around 6 reported eye injuries every year and an untold number that occur but are never treated.

To minimize pain and possible damage to the eye, please follow this advice on treating some of the more common workplace eye injuries:

Chemical Burns

- Flush the eye for at least 15 minutes. If you do not have immediate access to an eyewash station, the eye should be held open and flushed with the first available "drinkable" fluid, whether that is water, milk, juice or pop.
- After flushing the eye, seek immediate medical attention.
- Do not bandage the eye, as this will cause emergency medical personnel to waste time removing bandages.

- People who wear contact lenses should not attempt to remove them. Begin flushing the eye, allowing the liquid to dislodge the lens gently.

Cuts and punctures to the eye or eyelid

- Cover the eye lightly to protect it from dirt particles and see a doctor right away.
- Do not flush the eye with any liquid. Flushing may remove fluids that maintain the eye's structure and function.
- Do not try to remove an object stuck in the eye, as this could cause even worse damage.

Specks in the eye

- Lift the upper eyelid outward and down over the lower eyelid.
- Let your tears wash out the speck or

particle. If the speck does not wash out, keep the eye closed, bandage it lightly and see a doctor as soon as possible.

It is recommended that you wear safety glasses every day, even if current policy may not require it. For those situations where more than safety glasses are required, we provide both chemical and impact resistant safety goggles, welding and cutting helmets and full face shields.

For information on first aid for eye injuries or how to protect your eyes, contact your KC District Risk Management office.



Future of I-70 in KC-Virtual Town Hall

MoDOT KC is pilot testing an on-line idea collaboration tool designed to reach broader audiences and offer our customers another efficient and effective way to communicate with us.

It's new to the KC District and to MoDOT, so your feedback is greatly appreciated.

The I-70 Second Tier Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) study team encourages you to check it out -- please click on the link below to watch Matt Killion's video, register and join the conversation!

<http://www.metroi70.com/>

You can also learn more about the I-70 Second Tier EIS by visiting the project website: <http://www.modot.org/kansascity/metroi70/>



These Teens Buckle Up

Battle of the Belt Winners Honored

Local schools took the challenge to buckle up and made it click with students. One hundred and fifty-five (155) schools statewide, including 23 in the KC District, participated in this year's Battle of the Belt Challenge, a competition to raise seat belt use among teens. District winners include:

- Midway High School in Cass County won the Kansas City award for the Highest Overall Seat Belt Use achieving 100% seat belt use, and received \$500 donated by American Family Insurance to be used for future seat belt educational programs at the school.
- Valley View High School in Jackson County won the Kansas City award for the Most Improved Seat Belt Use increasing their seat belt use from 53% to 100%, and also received \$500 donated by American Family Insurance to be used for future seat belt educational programs at the school.

Ten schools in the Kansas City area received statewide recognition for seat belt use that reached gold (99-100%), silver (95-98%) or bronze (91-94%) levels of seat belt use. Those schools include:

- Gold: Midway HS, Cleveland
- Gold: Valley View HS, Blue Springs
- Silver: Raymore-Peculiar HS, Peculiar
- Silver: Sherwood HS, Creighton
- Silver: Pleasant Hill HS, Pleasant Hill
- Silver: Lawson HS, Lawson
- Silver: Park Hill South HS, Riverside
- Bronze: Belton HS, Belton
- Bronze: North Platte HS, Dearborn
- Bronze: Sweet Springs HS, Sweet Springs

In addition, two schools in the district placed for a 30-second video competition. The top three winning videos received money to further seat belt educational programs at their schools, and can be viewed by visiting www.saveMOLives.com. The winners include:

- 1st Place: Summit Technology Academy (Lee's Summit)
- 2nd Place: Summit Technology Academy (Lee's Summit)

"We're proud of our local schools for showing a commitment to buckling up and wanting to help other teens understand the importance of wearing a seat belt every time they ride in or drive a vehicle," said Melanie Lanigan, regional coordinator for Battle of the Belt. "Seat belts save lives."

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for people 15-20 years old. Results of a 2011 survey among Missouri teens indicate 33 percent of teens are not wearing their seat belt putting them at greater risk to get killed or injured in traffic crashes. Seven out of 10 teens killed in Missouri traffic crashes are unbuckled.

Battle of the Belt was originally brought to southwest Missouri by the Missouri Emergency Nurses Association and St. John's Hospital. In 2006, the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety, in conjunction with American Family Insurance, took the competition statewide and continue to sponsor this year's program with the Missouri College of Emergency Physicians.



Above, Melanie Lanigan, left, regional coordinator for Battle of the Belt, presents a check for \$400 to the first place winners in the Public Service Announcement video competition. This is the first time a winner was chosen from the KC District. On the right, the second place winners received a check for \$300. Both groups were from Summit Technology Academy in Lee's Summit and their videos were selected from 44 entries statewide. The money will be used toward seat belt educational programs.