

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Airport improvement projects selected for funding

A record number of projects to enhance service and safety at the state's public use airports have been selected for funding through the Kansas Airport Improvement Program (KAIP).

Thirty-eight projects at 34 airports will receive a total of \$3.3 million in matching funds to address maintenance, runway, facility and equipment needs. The Kansas Department of Transportation's Division of Aviation, which manages the program, received 104 project applications, also a record, for projects totaling approximately \$18 million.

Recognizing the importance of air service to the Kansas economy and emergency health care services, KDOT established KAIP in 1999 with funding authorized as part of the Comprehensive Transportation Program. Since that time, KDOT has contributed approximately \$27 million for 207 projects at public use airports. These airports are classified as having fewer than 10,000 passenger boardings a year.

"KDOT is still seeing a big demand for this program, which has never had more than 100 applications in one year," said Director of Aviation Ed Young.

"The condition of runways throughout the state has improved dramatically under this program. Now, many of our projects involve enhancements to airport weather observations systems (AWOS) and self-sufficiency services, such as self-service fueling systems."

Under guidelines of the program, project sponsors are required to pay a minimum of 10 percent of the total project costs, up to a maximum of 50 percent based on population.

The following communities/counties have been selected for funding:

North Central Kansas

Washington County – airport development plan; **Junction City** – overlay runway; **Abilene** – self-service fueling system; **Herington** – self-service fueling system; **Lincoln** – lighting; **Ellsworth** – AWOS upgrade; **Ellsworth** – self-service fueling system; **Beloit** – self-service fueling system; **Hillsboro** – construct turnaround, expand ramp; **Hillsboro** – replace communications equipment.

Northwest Kansas

Smith Center – AWOS upgrade; **Osborne** – construct taxiway, reconstruct ramp; **Russell** – self-service fueling system; **Trego County/WaKeeney** – runway repair; **Hill City** – self-service fueling system; **Norton** – AWOS upgrade; **Norton** – construct refueling ramp; **Oberlin** – AWOS; **Colby** – replace beacon; **St. Francis** – AWOS upgrade; **Phillipsburg** – seal runway; **Phillipsburg** – AWOS upgrade.

Southeast Kansas

Pleasanton – new runway; **Fort Scott** – fuel credit card reader; **Fredonia** – beacon and tower; **Eureka** – AWOS upgrade.

South Central Kansas

Benton – extend runway, taxiway; **Rose Hill** – self-service fueling system; **Kingman** – AWOS upgrade; **Kinsley** – runway reconstruction; **Great Bend** – repair/seal taxiway.

Southwest Kansas

Scott City – communications equipment; **Satanta** – self-service fueling system; **Leoti** – self-service fueling system; **Grant County/Ulysses** – joint seal runway; **Syracuse** – AWOS upgrade; **Stanton County/Johnson City** – replace beacon and tower; **Morton County/Elkhart** – reconstruct taxiway.

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