



DISTRICT 3 - NORTHWEST REGION 2021 Local Consult Meetings Summary

Local Consult is the public engagement process for KDOT’s 10-year Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program (IKE). The process takes place every two years to gather input on a list of potential highway modernization and expansion projects for each geographic region throughout the state. The input Kansans provide helps KDOT determine which projects will move forward into the IKE development pipeline for further engineering and analysis. It’s also an opportunity to strengthen local partnerships, better understand which KDOT programs matter most to communities, and get feedback on how delivery can be improved.

KDOT engaged with more than 125 participants during the Local Consult meetings for the northwest region. For 2021, the Local Consult meetings looked different from years past. Out of an abundance of caution and to comply with state guidance related to COVID-19, meetings were held virtually, with two ways to participate:

- 1. Zoom meetings** were hosted for all six districts, plus two in the urban areas of Wichita and Kansas City.
- 2. On-demand webpages** were also created and allowed participants the option to review meeting information and provide input on their own schedule.

WHAT WE HEARD IN DISTRICT 3: NORTHWEST

Modernization Projects: Northwest Kansas meeting participants identified two projects of highest priority for the region: the reconstruction of the US-183Y and I-70 interchange in Ellis County and US-281 from Luray north to Osborne. Economic development, significant truck traffic and previous study efforts were all cited during discussions. Safety concerns due to narrow shoulders with heavy truck traffic and large agricultural equipment were discussed on US-281, K-23 and K-25.

WE ALSO HEARD: Public/private coordination could help continue to improve safety for the traveling public.

*“Wind turbine loads can **stop traffic in both directions** when turning, **especially at traffic lights.**”*

*“Industry coordination to help address oversized loads, such as wind turbine blades, **could help ease traffic congestion.**”*

DISTRICT 3 NORTHWEST KANSAS PARTICIPATION BY THE NUMBERS



125+
PARTICIPANTS

JOINED THE LIVE ZOOM MEETING
AND/OR PROVIDED INPUT
ON DEMAND ONLINE

KDOT received a number of letters of support for the K-27 Wallace County reconstruction project from Sharon Springs north to the Sherman county line during the Local Consult process.



WHAT WE HEARD IN DISTRICT 3: NORTHWEST, CONTINUED



NORTHWEST REGION PROJECT SCORING

The project list discussed during the northwest regional meeting is displayed below. The list reflects the top high- and medium-priority projects identified during breakout group discussions. **No expansion projects were identified for the 2021 Local Consult discussion.**

MODERNIZATION



Map ID	Project Description	Scope	Miles	FY-25 Cost \$M	Engineer Score (80 pts)	Local Input (20 pts)
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 365	US-183Y Ellis County: Bridge #019 located at Jct. US-183Y/I-70†	Interchange Reconstruction	NA	\$19	44	
➡ ★ 331	US-281 Russell County: West Jct. K-18 to Luray	Reconstruct	8	\$20	36	
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ 321	US-281 Russell/Osborne County: Luray North to Osborne	Reconstruct	22	\$53 ^Y	40	
➡ 334	US-281 Smith County: US-36 to Nebraska State Line	Reconstruct	15	\$37	40	
324	K-23 Gove County: Gove City North to Grainfield	Reconstruct	10	\$25	29	
➡ ★ 366	K-23 Sheridan/Gove County: I-70 North to County Rd. 406†	Reconstruct	11	\$27	52	
328	K-25 Logan County: Wichita County Line to Russell Springs	Reconstruct	24	\$60	29	
➡ ★ 327	K-25 Logan/Thomas County: East Jct. US-40 to County Rd. I	Reconstruct	10	\$22	56	
340	K-25 Rawlins County: Atwood to Nebraska State Line	Reconstruct	13	\$32	22	
★ 330	K-25 Rawlins County: Thomas County Line to Atwood	Reconstruct	16	\$40	40	
★ 336	K-25 Thomas County: Colby to Rawlins County Line	Reconstruct	12	\$30	49	
338	K-27 Wallace County: Greeley County Line North 8 miles	Reconstruct	8	\$19	47	
339	K-27 Wallace County: Sharon Springs North to Sherman County Line	Reconstruct	16	\$40	56	
Projects presented in 2019; not scored this year						
US-281 Smith County: Portis to Smith Center - Low engineering need					Reconstruct	
K-23 Sheridan County: Hoxie to US-83 - Low engineering need					Reconstruct	
K-25 Logan County: Russell Springs to W Jct US-40 - Low engineering need					Reconstruct	

★ Identified as a **high** priority
➡ Identified as a **medium** priority

“A regional ethanol plant is undergoing a \$230M expansion switching over to glucose. This will result in increased truck traffic and rail demands.”

-NORTHWEST PARTICIPANT

DISTRICT 3 PARTICIPANT QUOTES

“The US-183Y project would address the traffic concerns the highway patrol has with this interchange currently and into the future.”

-NORTHWEST ON-DEMAND PARTICIPANT