



# KS LTAP Newsletter

The Newsletter for Kansas Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)

October | November 2018



## We've developed a Local Public Agency (LPA) Project Manager Certification Program

KDOT in association with FHWA and the Kansas Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP) have developed the

KDOT "Project Manager Certification Program" (PMCP) that all Local Public Agency (LPA) "Person in Responsible Charge" or Project Manager (PM) must complete prior to serving as a PM for a project with Federal or State funding. Click here to read the article.



Check out our training schedule online, and don't forget, we offer webinars you can take anytime. Go to [kutc.ku.edu](http://kutc.ku.edu)



## You can attend Tribal Technical Assistance Program (TTAP) classes

Classes are free of charge and available to local agencies. Some (not all) of these classes may be relevant to local agencies as well as tribal agencies.

Registration is done through TTAP. Go to [ttap.enrollware.com](http://ttap.enrollware.com) to learn more and to register.

Here are the upcoming Planning and Procurement offerings in Horton, KS, October 23 - 26:

- 23 - Developing your Transportation Plan
- 23 - Long Range Transportation Plan
- 24 - Project Prioritization
- 24 - Contract Specification Writing
- 25 - Contract Execution
- 25 - Evaluation and Selection of Consultants
- 26 - Contract Cost Negotiations
- 26 - Data Use in Planning

## Guidance for driving on gravel roads

By Norm Bowers

In Kansas there are almost 100,000 miles of unpaved roads. These unpaved roads with a gravel or dirt surface are the predominant road type in rural areas of Kansas and they present their own special road safety challenges. Driving on loose gravel is harder than driving on pavement because tires don't have the traction needed to give stable control. Throw speed into the mix and your residents have a formula for trouble. Click here for a Fact Sheet on the topic.



Photo by Norm Bowers

## There are new faces at KUTC

Kansas LTAP is a program of the University of Kansas Transportation Center (KUTC). The staff you know as Kansas LTAP are employed at the KUTC, based in Lawrence at the KU School of Engineering.

KUTC has a couple of new staff members we would like to introduce: Toni Dixon and Hemin Mohammed. Click here to read the article.



(l-r) Toni Dixon and Hemin Mohammed

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## We've got exciting updates for the Roads Scholar Program

There is good news for individuals wanting to obtain a Level Two Roads Scholar certificate. At the request of local agencies, the Kansas Roads Scholar Advisory Committee will allow participants to skip Level One if the individual has more than five years of public works experience and receives approval from their supervisor. Requests should be submitted to Kansas LTAP for approval, at [kutc\\_training@ku.edu](mailto:kutc_training@ku.edu).

Kansas LTAP will be offering more Level One and Level Two courses. New elective courses have been added to both the Technical Skills and Supervisory Skills Programs. These courses are not required, but one may be taken in place of one of the other required classes.

Check out the updates made to the Master Course Listing for the Roads Scholar Program, which lists the classes required for the different levels of the program and how often they are offered. Go to [kutc.ku.edu/roads-scholar-home-page](http://kutc.ku.edu/roads-scholar-home-page). Upcoming trainings and registration are available online at [kutc.ku.edu/calendar/ltap](http://kutc.ku.edu/calendar/ltap).

Kansas LTAP administers this program for the Kansas County Highway Association and the Kansas Chapter of the American Public Works Association. Questions? Please contact Kansas LTAP at (785) 864-2594 or [kutc\\_training@ku.edu](mailto:kutc_training@ku.edu).



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## Want to learn more about the Kansas Roads Scholar Program?

The Level One: Technical Skills Program enhances the knowledge of general public works maintenance and construction methods, safety practices, and how local government is organized and operated, as it applies to quality public service. The Technical Skills Program consists of 10 different training sessions for a total of at least 60 hours of instruction.

The Level Two: Supervisory Skills Program develops supervisory skills for persons engaged in public works maintenance and construction activities. The Supervisory Skills Program consists of eight different training sessions for a total of at least 50 hours of instruction.

The Level Three: Executive Development Program enhances management and administrative skills for those who are, or aspire to be, a county highway administrator, county or city engineer, or public works director.

The Executive Development Program consists of 10 different training sessions plus one elective course for a total of at least 60 hours of instruction. For more information, go to [kutc.ku.edu/roads-scholar-home-page](http://kutc.ku.edu/roads-scholar-home-page).

In May, Norm Bowers, Kansas LTAP instructor, presented certificates to (from the top) Dane Onnen, Woodson County (Level One); Ryan Durst, Coffey County (Level One); and Seth Howard, Atchison County (Level One). Well done!

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## Kansas Roads Scholar participation

Current participation in the Roads Scholar program looks like this:

Level One		Level Three	
cities	20	cities	1
counties	22	counties	8
people	98	people	12
graduates	6	graduates	0

<b>Level Two</b>		Notification and certificates will
cities	3	soon be sent to recent graduates.
counties	13	
people	47	
graduates	0	





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## Guidance on design of bicycle lanes – and more

Bike lane design has been the topic of much study in recent years. Bike lane design can be quite challenging in situations where the existing urban traffic patterns are complex and cross sections are already constrained by heavy traffic volumes. Designers throughout the country develop new and better solutions each year.

The Federal Highway Administration has published its FHWA Course on Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation as a series of lessons available for free online. Information on bike lanes is excerpted from the AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities. Lesson 19 in the course highlights the design of bicycle lanes. It contains recommended design practices as well as practices to avoid.

To read this lesson go to [https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/PED\\_BIKE/univcourse/swless19.cfm](https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/PED_BIKE/univcourse/swless19.cfm). You can also click on “Previous” and “Next” on that page to read other lessons from the Course.

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## Focus on worker safety vests

An excerpt from “Innovative Traffic Control Devices for Improving Safety at Rural Short-Term Maintenance Work Zones”

by Michael D. Fontaine, Texas Transportation Institute, Texas A&M University System

Much of the maintenance work performed on low-volume rural roads is completed in a single day. The short duration of these work zones can create a number of safety challenges. TxDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) sponsored a Texas Transportation Institute (TTI) research project to determine if innovative traffic control devices could improve safety at short-term rural maintenance work zones. This project examined several innovative countermeasures to determine if they would produce a positive safety benefit at short-term rural work zones.

Five different traffic control devices were selected for further evaluation: speed display trailers, radar drones, portable rumble strips, alternative worker vests, and fluorescent orange roll-up signs.

Click [here](#) to read the excerpt in which we highlight the portion on alternative worker vests.

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## The LTAP Newsletter is back

It’s been a while since you’ve seen an issue of the *LTAP Newsletter* and we apologize for that. The KUTC communications coordinator position has been in flux, but now our new editor, Toni Dixon, is on board, so you’ll be seeing the *LTAP Newsletter* regularly.

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## Share it!

Please forward this newsletter to colleagues who may want to be added to our e-newsletter list. Sign up on our website at [kutc.ku.edu/ltap](http://kutc.ku.edu/ltap).



## Kansas LTAP

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## LTAP Advisory Board and Sponsors

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