

**PRELIMINARY
MINUTES**

BUILD KANSAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

September 24, 2025
Room 159-S—Statehouse

Members Present

Senator Rick Billinger – Chairperson
Representative Troy Waymaster – Vice-chairperson
Senator Michael Fagg
Senator Pat Pettey
Senator Tim Shallenburger
Representative Shannon Francis
Representative Henry Helgersen
Representative Kyle Hoffman
Representative Lindsay Vaughn

Staff Present

Dylan Dear, Kansas Legislative Research Department (KLRD)
Walt Nelson, KLRD
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Chris Waggoner, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Susan McClacherty, Committee Assistant

Conferees

Shawn Wesner, Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

**Wednesday, September 24
Morning Session**

Call to Order

Chairperson Billinger called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

Presentation on Kansas Infrastructure Hub/Build Kansas Fund Updates

Shawn Wesner, Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub, on behalf of the Build Kansas Steering Committee, highlighted the accomplishments of the Kansas Infrastructure Hub since the last Kansas Build Advisory Council meeting. Ms. Wesner presented information on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) grant opportunities compared to opportunities in 2024 and a heat map of efforts across sectors and programs. She also provided updates to the information found on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Dashboard. ([Attachment 1](#))

Presentation on Applications to the Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund

Shawn Wesner, Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub, on behalf of the Build Kansas Steering Committee, presented the applications for the Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund.

The following applications were reviewed:

1. #2025-159-NoEDD is from Franklin County to develop an Action Plan aimed at significantly reducing fatal crashes and severe injuries within the county's seven city jurisdictions. The entity is requesting \$156,906 and contributing a local match of \$8,258. The request has the potential to unlock \$660,657 of federal funds, for a total project cost of \$825,821. This application was previously reviewed and did not meet the 5 percent local cost share expectation. ([Attachment 2](#))

There was consensus to approve this application.

2. #2025-162-FHRC is from the Flint Hills Regional Council, Inc., to develop a Comprehensive Regional Safety Action Plan and implement nine targeted demonstration projects in high-risk locations across the region. The entity is requesting \$329,340 and providing an in-kind contribution of \$17,334. This request has the potential to unlock \$1.4 million of federal funds, for a total project cost of \$1.7 million. This application was previously reviewed and did not meet the 5 percent local cost share expectation. ([Attachment 3](#))

There was consensus to approve this application.

3. #2025-160-MARC is from the City of Basehor to create and adopt an Action Plan to implement Safe Streets and Roads For All strategies. The entity is requesting \$28,500 and contributing a local match of \$1,500. This request has potential to unlock \$120,000 of federal funds, for a total project cost of \$150,000. ([Attachment 4](#))

There was consensus to approve this application.

4. #2025-165-NoEDD is from Franklin County to allow for the development of planning, design, and engineering needed for future bridge construction. The entity is requesting \$37,525 and contributing a local match of \$1,975. The request has the potential to unlock \$158,004 of federal funds, for a total project cost of \$197,505. ([Attachment 5](#))

The Build Kansas Advisory Committee inquired if Franklin County had assessed qualifications of funding through the Heritage Trust for the bridge on the Historic Register, the scope of the reconstruction project, and the long-term plan for the project. Staff informed the committee that Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) rejected the funding request for the project.

The committee also discussed this application was attempting to leverage local and state funding to draw down more federal money, to repair more poor-conditioned bridges on the local roadway systems, which is primarily the responsibility of local government.

Representative Hoffman moved, Representative Helgeson seconded, to send this application back pending more information from KDOT before the next meeting. The motion carried.

Shawn Wesner informed the committee that all projects that received IIJA funding and approved were reviewed, and will provide a chart at the next committee meeting.

Ms. Wesner informed the committee of the scheduled events on the Kansas Infrastructure Hub calendar.

Committee Discussion, Advice, and Recommendations

The Committee requested a list of the 11 canceled infrastructure projects due to the federal grant program being canceled. The Kansas Infrastructure Hub will provide this information.

The Committee requested information on approved planning applications and if those entities have moved forward with building applications.

The Committee requested more information about the state's obligation or contingent liability for the awarded federal grant projects.

The Committee discussed that applicants for planning dollars should have a commitment from KDOT in their long-term infrastructure plans or a strong likelihood that federal funds or other funding source are available for entities after their planning projects are completed.

The Committee discussed being in the third year of the four-year Build Kansas program and considered whether or not the committee should make a policy recommendation on whether to fund additional years before the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and House Committee on Appropriations look at the budget.

The Committee suggested having a discussion at the next meeting about what may be happening with some of the federal programs to address funding for subsequent years.

KLRD staff informed the Committee that two primary bridge programs – a formula program and a BIP discretionary grant program – were part of the IIJA; and the One Big Beautiful Bill temporarily paused the BIP program, while some climate change requirements were changed and racial justice

requirements were removed. The BIP program was restored and not eliminated, and applications moved forward.

Approval of July 22, 2025 Minutes

Representative Waymaster moved, Representative Helgersen seconded, to adopt the minutes from July 22, 2025. The motion carried.

Adjourn

Chairperson Billinger adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Prepared by Susan McClacherty

Edited by Chardae Caine

Approved by the Committee on:

(Date)

draft