

KANSAS HIGHWAY DEDICATION SIGNING

FACT SHEET: THE PROCESS



Kansas allows individuals or organizations to be commemorated with designated signage along state-owned highways, bridges and interchanges.

Key points for dedication signage on Kansas highways, bridges and interchanges:

- This is a legislatively led process, requiring a state representative or senator to introduce and carry legislation forward. Legislative passage of the bill and the Governor's signature is required for approval.
- The Kansas Department of Transportation provides information, location review and cost analysis.
- Most legislation requires the requesting party to be responsible for 100 percent of cost for manufacturing and installation of the dedication sign(s), plus an additional 50 percent of that cost to cover long-term maintenance and replacement.



Pre-Legislation Requests

The highway dedication process begins with the requesting sponsor – family, group, organizations, etc. – contacting a legislative representative about obtaining dedicated signing on the state highway system. Dedication signage on Kansas-owned right of way can only occur when a legislator introduces a bill, legislative approval is received and the Governor signs the bill.

KDOT cannot and does not have a role in introducing, advocating or approving dedication signage legislation.

Information needed for requests:

- Designated highway – Identify the route(s) on the state highway system with beginning and ending points.
- Designated bridge – Identify the bridge location on the state highway system.
- Designated interchange – Identify the interchange location and route(s) on the state highway system.

Legislators or requesting sponsor(s) are encouraged to contact KDOT to obtain information about the process prior to presenting to legislative committees or other legislators. KDOT offices involved in the process include: Division of Policy, Division of Communications, Division of Fiscal & Asset Management, Office of Finance & Budget and Bureau of Traffic Engineering.

For information contact the KDOT Division of Communications at 785-296-3585 or KDOT#PublicInfo@ks.gov



Determining locations before legislation is introduced

KDOT can confirm a requested memorial or dedication highway, bridge or interchange location is not already designated as a memorial or dedication location. KDOT will collaborate with sponsor and legislator to review alternative options.

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Legislative and KDOT process for proposed signing of Memorial or Dedication Highway/Bridge/Interchange

1. Legislator will present the Senate Bill (SB) or House Bill (HB) to the legislative committee.
2. KDOT will review proposed legislation for adherence to KDOT naming requirements. If needed, KDOT can provide recommendations.
 - Names and titles only – i.e. Jack Jonson; Sen Jack Jonson; Sgt Jack Jonson
 - No periods; no apostrophes
 - No nicknames – i.e. Jack “Bull” Jonson not allowed
 - No epitaphs
 - Three lines maximum; two lines preferred
3. Legislative committee will request a cost analysis (fiscal note) from KDOT.
4. KDOT will provide the legislative committee with a cost analysis and proposed sign layouts.



Once legislation is passed and signed by the Governor

Legislator will provide KDOT with contact information of the individual(s) representing the sponsor(s).

Payment, if required, is made to: *KDOT Division of Engineering and Design
Dwight D. Eisenhower State Office Building
700 SW Harrison St. – 7th Floor
Topeka, KS 66603-3745*

Project begins with payment

KDOT initiates a dedicated sign project **only** after full payment has been received or as directed by legislation. Costs are not standardized, rather individual sign costs are based on such factors as dimensions of sign, number of support posts, installation requirement, etc.

- Once check/payment is received, KDOT will develop plans.
- District will order signs and schedule installation.
- District Public Affairs Manager (PAM) will communicate with the sponsor(s) regarding estimated schedule.

Dedications Events

- Dedication ceremonies are not allowed on highway ROW due to safety considerations.
- The district PAM will serve as liaison between KDOT and the sponsoring group on the status of sign delivery and installation.
- Any event, ceremony or unveiling will be the responsibility of the sponsoring group.
- PAM can arrange for signs to be available at off-site unveiling ceremonies prior to installation.
- If requested, PAM will assist legislator/sponsor with media alerts and news releases.

It is recommended dedication/unveiling ceremonies be scheduled **after** signs have been delivered and an installation date has been confirmed.



Online Map

The Kansas highway system has more than 100 dedicated bridges, interchanges and highways. A list and locations can be viewed at: <https://www.ksdot.org/Assets/wwwksdotorg/bureaus/burTransPlan/maps/SpecialInterestStateMaps/Memorial.pdf>