

BUREAU OF RESEARCH

Primary Functions

The Bureau of Research is responsible for the oversight of federal funds dedicated to transportation research, KTRAN projects, KDOT library, and assisting in forensic investigations of prematurely failed transportation projects.

- Serve as Chair of the Research Technical Committee and assist in the identification and prioritization of projects for KDOT's research programs;
- Undertake research projects approved by the Research Technical Committee and Research Program Council, or KDOT's management;
- Administer the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP);
- Administer technical information services, National Highway Institute (NHI) technical training, and plan and host conferences and workshops;
- Edit and publish technical reports, write and publish research and technology transfer manuscripts, reports, news articles, and newsletters;
- Maintain a KDOT library, which interacts with the national library network to assist staff when it is necessary to acquire transportation-related information;
- Provide for research development and utilization of new highway construction materials and procedures;
- Report research findings in various categories including asphalt materials, concrete materials, pavement surfaces, geology, and chemistry;
- Develop the equipment and procedures necessary to implement research findings;
- Evaluate unusual situations that may occur during standard construction and maintenance field operations and recommend corrective actions;
- Maintain several national research databases and the bureau web site;
- Serve as project monitors on contracted university or private sector research projects;
- Chair the New Products Committee and administer new product evaluations; and
- Serve as KDOT's representative to the Transportation Research Board, as a member of the AASHTO Research Advisory Committee, and as a member of various other state, regional, and national technical panels and committees.