Bringing a Midwest voice to the National RUC conversation
Kansas is adding a Midwest perspective

- Rural Communities
- Agriculture Industry
- Commercial Trucking
Our Midwest RUC study approach

**Outreach**
- Focus on Rural Communities, Agricultural & Freight Industries
  - Advisory committees
  - Hands-on workshops
  - Industry conversations

**Design**
- Volunteer-driven Research
  - Explore options to report miles driven with resident volunteers
  - Summarize research findings
  - Recruit volunteers for pilot

**Test**
- Demonstration Pilots
  - Test ways to report miles driven with Kansas volunteers
  - Partner with Minnesota DOT to expand the study reach

**Phase 1**
- Sept 2021 – June 2022

**Phase 2**
- July 2022 – June 2023

**Phase 3**
- June 2023 – June 2024
We’re creating a Midwest connection

**Kansas & Minnesota Departments of Transportation**
Rural, agricultural and interstate freight

**Ohio Department of Transportation**
Public opinion research and education
We’re looking inside

**PROTECTED REVENUE**

- Federal Funds
- Motor Fuel Tax
- Reg. License Permit, Other
- Bond Proceeds
- Local Funding

**UNPROTECTED REVENUE**

- Sales Tax

**Funds**

- Special City & County Highway Fund
- State Highway Fund (SHF)
- Transfers to Other Agencies
Transportation funding is changing

Revenue Mix in FY2021
- State Motor Fuel Taxes: 19%
- Federal Fuel Taxes & Fees: 15%
- State Sales Tax: 22%
- State Driver & Vehicle Fees: 6%
- Local Construction: 38%

Revenue Projection for FY2045
- State Motor Fuel Taxes: 11%
- Federal Fuel Taxes & Fees: 12%
- State Sales Tax: 3%
- State Driver & Vehicle Fees: 14%
- Local Construction: 60%
We’re having conversations with stakeholders

**Within Kansas**
- Kansas Farm Bureau
- Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- KS Department of Agriculture (KDA)
- KS Motor Carriers Association (KMCA)
- KDOT Public Affairs Managers

**Beyond Kansas**
- MPOs
- KS League of municipalities
- KS Association of counties
- Kansas SmartPort Authority
- Mid America Regional Council
- Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO)
- Minnesota DOT

4,000+ stakeholders surveyed
925 responses
Outreach

Focus on Rural Communities, Agricultural & Freight Industries

- Advisory committees
- Hands-on workshops
- Industry conversations

What we’re seeing and hearing

Phase 1 – Outreach highlights
(ENDING IN JUNE 2022)
What are the most important issues when thinking about paying a fee for each mile you drive?

Rural respondents are especially concerned about paying both a RUC and a fuel tax at the pump, and if a RUC would cost more for rural communities.

“Ensuring that such a charge can be fairly collected and paid by all, including out-of-state visitors, with minimum overhead.”

“Rural drivers typically drive longer distances to work, grocery stores, doctors, etc. and generally have lower incomes than metro drivers.”

“Heavy vehicles harder on infrastructure should be required to pay more.”
Meeting with Kansans

Phase 2 – Design

(STARTING JULY 2022)

Volunteer-driven Research

- Explore options to report miles driven with resident volunteers
- Summarize research findings
- Recruit volunteers for pilot
Research themes

1. **TRUST**
   What needs to be true about a RUC program for it to be considered trustworthy?

2. **FAIRNESS & EQUITY**
   What needs to be true about a RUC program for it to be considered fair and equitable?

3. **COMPREHENSION & ACCEPTANCE**
   What needs to be true about a RUC program for it to be understood and accepted?

4. **IMPLEMENTATION PREFERENCE**
   What needs to be true about how a RUC program is implemented?
User-centered research plan

Research will target **4 key groups** and will consist of **3 stages**:

1. **Rural residents**,
2. **Commercial trucking**,
3. **Agricultural sector**
4. **(A few) urban residents**

### STAGE 1
**Prepare & Recruit**
- Design research session activities, stimuli, and scripts.
- Recruit and schedule participants

### STAGE 2
**Research**
- Facilitate, **1-on-1 research sessions** with participants with a duration of 90 minutes each

### STAGE 3
**Synthesize & Share**
- Organize and analyze all research data to identify themes, insights, and recommendations
- Package relevant research findings
- Design pilot concepts based on end-user feedback for Field Testing in Phase 3
Demonstration Pilots

Phase 3 – Test
(JUNE 2023-JUNE 2024)

- Test ways to report miles driven with Kansas volunteers
- Partner with Minnesota DOT to expand the study reach