

**PRELIMINARY  
MINUTES**

**BUILD KANSAS COMMITTEE**

October 25, 2023  
Room 548-S—Statehouse

**Members Present**

Senator Ty Masterson, Chairperson  
Representative Troy Waymaster, Vice-chairperson  
Senator J.R. Claeys  
Senator Usha Reddi  
Senator Tim Shallenburger  
Representative Shannon Francis  
Representative Kyle Hoffman  
Representative Lindsay Vaughn

**Members Absent**

All members present

**Staff Present**

Eric Adell, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Jill Wolters, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Chris Waggoner, Office of Revisor of Statutes  
Dylan Dear, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Chardae Caine, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Nancy Fontaine, Committee Assistant

**Conferees**

Vanessa Lamoreaux, Senior Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

**Approval of August 30, 2023 Minutes**

*Representative Hoffman moved, Representative Waymaster seconded, approval of the minutes for August 30, 2023. The motion carried.*

**Presentation on Applications to the Build Kansas Matching Grant Fund**

The Chairperson recognized Vanessa Lamoreaux, Kansas Infrastructure Hub, on behalf of the Build Kansas Steering Committee (Steering Committee). There are two applications ready for review and there are eleven more in progress. Ms. Lamoreaux reviewed the overall process and pointed out that funds will be pre-obligated contingent on receipt of federal funds. If no federal funding is received, the funds will be released back into the Build Kansas Fund ([Attachment 1](#)).

The first application is from the City of Russell to support a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant to improve their electric distribution system, which was extensively damaged during a winter storm in 2021. There is a 75/25 percent split of federal versus local funding. The City of Russell has generated \$339,941 locally and they are seeking \$339,941 from the Build Kansas Fund, with the total project cost being \$2,719,533. The federal grant request has been submitted and this project was approved by the Steering Committee ([Attachment 2](#)).

The second application is from the City of Ogden to support a U.S. Department of Transportation Reconnecting Communities Grant to improve connectivity and accessibility for the Riley Avenue Corridor. There is a 80/20 percent split of federal and local funding. The City of Ogden is seeking \$399,000 from the Build Kansas Fund, with the total project cost being \$1,995,000. The federal grant request has been submitted and this project was approved by the the Steering Committee. Ms. Lamoreaux responded to questions from Committee members concerning these two applications and the application process in general ([Attachment 3](#)).

### **Committee Discussion, Advice, and Recommendations**

*Representative Francis moved, Representative Waymaster seconded, to approve these two applications and to recommend to the State Treasurer that they be funded. The motion carried.*

Committee members discussed how Kansas cities might be able to get help in areas that do not have the opportunity to request federal funding. Currently Build Kansas is tied specifically to the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), so members suggested the 2024 Legislature may want to consider expanding opportunities beyond that.

Chairperson Masterson adjourned the meeting at 10:55 am.

Prepared by Nancy Fontaine  
Edited by Chardae Caine

Approved by the Committee on:

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(Date)