

<http://www.MSCNews.net/news/index.cfm?nk=38115>

Ks to Help Fund Replacement of Small Bridges

HUTCHINSON, Kan. (AP) - A new state program will help Kansas counties and cities finance replacement of small local bridges that have become unsafe for large, modern farm equipment.

KDOT Secretary Mike King announced the \$10 million program Tuesday in Hutchinson.

The agency says the program will provide local jurisdictions up to \$120,000 to replace deficient bridges that are 20 to 50 feet long and carry fewer than 100 vehicles a day. King says despite the low traffic numbers, the bridges are critical for farmers to get equipment into fields and crops to market.

KDOT says about 1,800 to 1,900 of the roughly 20,000 bridges in the state's local road systems would qualify for the funding.

Local jurisdictions will be required to provide a 10 percent match of the state funds.

Associated Press