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KDOT Secretary: State Highway Projects Will Proceed

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) - The top transportation official in Kansas says highway projects scheduled for 2015 and 2016 will proceed, despite a projected multi-million shortfall in the state's budget.

The Kansas Department of Transportation announced in August \$1.2 billion in highway projects for the next two years. In November, the state announced it was expecting a \$279 million shortfall for this fiscal year and another \$436 million shortfall the following fiscal year.

Transportation Secretary Mike King said Wednesday the projects for the next two fiscal years will proceed but he wasn't as certain about 2017.

The Wichita Eagle reports some conservative legislators have suggested using money from the highway fund to find extra money for other state needs. Democrats have warned that doing that would stop the planned highway projects.

Associated Press