

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2025 Application Package | Memo



To: Representative Troy Waymaster, Chair, Build Kansas Advisory Committee
Chardae Caine, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Shauna Wake, Office of the Kansas State Treasurer

From: Jason Fizell, Interim Executive Director, Kansas Infrastructure Hub

RE: Build Kansas Fund Application #2025-136-NoEDD

Date: June 17, 2025

Attached, please find an application made to the Build Kansas Fund by Jefferson County. The application packet includes the following items:

- Coversheet – provides a high-level overview of the application including a unique identification number, page 1 of 19 of the Build Kansas Fund Application Package.
- Build Kansas Fund Application – includes information submitted with the Build Kansas Fund Application, pages 2-8. Page 8 provides the table of funding sources and zip codes served by the project.
- Attachments – executive summary and project map images, pages 9-19.

Project Overview

Jefferson County seeks funding from the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding available through the Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program for their Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Jefferson County Kansas and Communities project which includes creating a Safety Action Plan to reduce traffic-related fatalities and enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety across the county.

This opportunity is a discretionary BIL program with a local match requirement of 20% of the total project cost. The entity is requesting \$120,200.00 from the Build Kansas Fund, and is requesting an exemption from the local cash contribution requirement. This request has the potential to unlock \$480,800.00 in federal funds, for a total project cost of \$601,000.00.

The deadline is June 26, 2025, and this Build Kansas Fund application was received on June 3, 2025.

Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee Recommendation

The Build Kansas Fund Steering Committee reviewed this application on June 11, 2025 following a successful completeness check. The Steering Committee **RECOMMENDS APPROVAL** of Build Kansas Funding to the Build Kansas Advisory Committee for final advice.

Build Kansas Fund | Fiscal Year 2025

Application Package | Coversheet



Build Kansas Fund Application Number	2025-136-NoEDD
Applicant Name	Jefferson County
Application Date Received	6/3/2025
Project Name	Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Jefferson County KS & Communities
Project Description	Create a Safety Action Plan to reduce traffic-related fatalities and enhance pedestrian and bicycle safety across the county
Entity Type	County Government
Economic Development District (EDD) Planning Commission	NO EDD/RPC
Infrastructure Sector(s)	Transportation
BIL Program	Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program
BIL Program Type	Discretionary
Application Type	Planning
BIL Application Deadline	6/26/2025
Build Kansas Fund Request	\$120,200.00
Technical Assistance Received	General Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	BIL Application Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Build Kansas Fund Application Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	Other (Brief Description): Provided General TA and BKF Application Support.
Application Notes	Build Kansas Fund contribution of \$120,200.00 will unlock \$480,800.00 in federal BIL funding, with a request for exemption from the local cash contribution, for a total project cost of \$601,000.00
Steering Committee Funding Recommendation	6/11/2025 Recommend <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Funding Recommendation	6/17/2025 Recommend <input type="checkbox"/> Declined <input type="checkbox"/>

Title	Jefferson County	06/04/2025
	by Brandy Sutherland in Build Kansas Fund Application	id. 50729677
	brandy.sutherland@bluevalleyconsultants.com	

Original Submission	06/05/2025
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Score	n/a
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Part 1: Applicant Information

The name of the entity applying for the Build Kansas Fund:	Jefferson County
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Project Name:	Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Jefferson County KS & Communities
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Entity type:	County Government
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Entity Population:	18,344
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Applicant Contact Name:	Stephan Metzger
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Applicant Contact Position/Title:	Community Development Director
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Applicant Contact Telephone Number:	+17854030618
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Applicant Contact Email Address:	smetzger@jfcountyks.com
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Applicant Contact Address:	300 Jefferson St.
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Applicant Contact Address Line 2 (optional):	PO Box 628
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Applicant Contact City:	Oskaloosa
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Applicant Contact State:	Kansas
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Applicant Contact Zip Code:	66066
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Is the Project
Contact the same as
the Applicant
Contact?

Yes

Part 2: Build Kansas Fund - Eligibility Criteria

Certify that you are
pursuing an
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity for which
your entity is eligible:

Yes

Certify that the
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity you are
pursuing has a
required non-federal
match component:

Yes

What is the primary
county that the
project will occur in?

Jefferson County

The Build Kansas Fund is intended to support Kansas-based infrastructure projects. Please provide a list of all the zip codes this project will be located in, along with an estimated percent [%] of the project located in that zip code. For example, if seeking funding for road infrastructure, provide a rough percent of the roads expected in each zip code:

[Zip Code Percentage.xlsx](#)

Part 3: Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) - Grant Application
Information Please Note: This information is related to the federal
Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), commonly known as the
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), funding opportunity to which you will
apply. This is NOT information for the Build Kansas Match Fund.

Please enter the
Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs
Act (IIJA) funding
opportunity title that
the entity is applying
for:

USDOT FY25 Safe Streets and Roads for All Funding

What is the funding agency for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? U.S. Department of Transportation

What is the Assistance Listing Number (ALN) for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? # 20.939

What is the federal application due date for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 6/26/2025

Application Type: Planning

What is the federal fiscal year for this Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity? 2025

Enter the amount of funding being applied for, from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funding opportunity: \$480,800.00 for a total project cost of \$601,000.00

Enter the total project cost: \$601,000.00

Enter the required non-federal match percentage: 20%

Part 4: Build Kansas Fund - Match Application Information Beginning in July 2024 and moving forward, eligible applicants are expected to contribute a portion of the non-Federal match requirement. This contribution can be in the form of cash and/or in-kind contributions. The goal is to demonstrate the applicant's commitment to the project. The contribution should be significant enough relative to the Build Kansas Fund request. For a local public entity, 5% of the non-federal match is a good guideline, but not a requirement. See Build Kansas Fund Program Guidance for exceptions and more information.

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being requested from the Build Kansas Fund: \$120,200.00 for a total project cost of \$601,000.00

Enter the non-federal cash match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: 0

Enter the estimated value of the non-federal in-kind match amount being provided by the eligible applicant, if applicable: 0

Expected breakdown of funding sources to support the project: Enter the funding source and projected amount from each source to support this project:

[Kansas+DOT+table_V2.xlsx](#)

Part 5: Build Kansas Fund - Means Test and Eligible Applicant Match

What other available funding sources that are currently planned to go unused by your entity will be leveraged for this project? n/a

Will any American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) or Coronavirus State & Local Fiscal Recovery Fund monies will be used for the non-federal match?

n/a

What other sources of in-kind match will be leveraged for this project? Please list and include the actual or estimated value of each.

Use of Community Center in Winchester for community engagement sessions estimated at \$710.

What other funding sources (local, federal, or non-federal) will be used for this match?

N/A

Describe your efforts to find other available funding sources for this project:

Community budgets are very limited in rural areas and low populations limit the tax base, requiring most funding to be used for maintenance and repair projects.

Part 6: Additional Information

Please upload a draft or final version of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) program grant application associated with this request OR an executive summary providing an overview of the project:

[SS4A_Narrative_JeffersonCounty_2025-05-31_DRAFT.pdf](#)

[Jefferson_Co_SS4A_Concept_2025-05-30.pdf](#)

Provide any additional information about this project not covered in previous sections of this application (optional):

Part 7: Terms and Conditions

Understanding of Fund Release Requirements:

checked

Understanding of Use of Funds:

checked

Understanding of Reporting Requirements:	checked
Authority to Make Grant Application:	checked
Persons and Titles: The following persons are responsible for making this Build Kansas Fund application.	Brandy Sutherland
Position/Title:	Blue Valley Consultants, LLC President
Additional:	Stephan Metzger
Position/Title:	Community Development Director
Additional:	
Position/Title:	
Additional:	
Position/Title:	

Source	Amount	% of Project
Build Kansas Funds (non-federal match)	\$120,200.00	20.00%
Eligible Applicant Cash Match	\$0.00	0.00%
Eligible Applicant In-Kind Match (estimated value)	\$0.00	0%
BIL Federal Funds (applied for)	\$480,800.00	80.00%
Additional Project Contribution (if applicable)	\$0.00	0%
TOTAL PROJECT COST	\$601,000.00	100%

***Applicant is seeking an exemption for the local cash match requirement**

Zip Code	% of project in zip code
66066	30%
66054	30%
66097	10%
66512	30%
	100% In Kansas

Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Jefferson County, Kansas & Communities

Jefferson County, Kansas is devoted to enhancing the safety, accessibility and mobility of all residents and visitors by addressing the urgent need to shift pedestrian and bicycle traffic away from high-risk highways and local roads onto safer, designated paths. With a landscape distinguished by farmland, small, rural towns and an expansive transportation network, the County recognizes the desperate need for infrastructure investments that prioritize the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike.

The **Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A)** grant presents an integral opportunity to implement strategic, proactive, data-driven methodologies to reduce traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries. To lead this initiative, the County will establish the **Jefferson County & Surrounding Communities Safety Task Force (Task Force)** – a collaborative team composed of county commissioners, city officials, and partner agencies – to steer the creation of a **Comprehensive Safety Action Plan** for Jefferson County and the surrounding communities of **McLouth, Meriden, Oskaloosa and Winchester** (collectively referred to as JC&C).

This project will include the development of a new Action Plan, community-based demonstration activities and supporting studies to improve regional safety and connectivity. Inclusive community feedback will be gathered and integrated into safety policies. The SS4A grant will help identify comprehensive, equitable, cost-effective infrastructure projects for all transportation modes. Demonstration projects will allow the County to test safety concepts, share data with the public and track progress in reducing traffic injuries and fatalities.

Project Location and Need

Jefferson County covers 572 square miles and maintains over 860 miles of roadways and 151 bridges. The region faces significant safety challenges due to intersecting **National Highway System (NHS)** routes and waterways. This project will identify connections to communities and to nearby regional centers including **Topeka, Lawrence, Leavenworth and Atchison**, expanding access to Perry Lake, promoting outdoor activity and enhancing economic development through tourism and regional connectivity.

Many communities lack adequate pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Existing sidewalks are often missing, narrow or **not ADA compliant**, introducing serious safety risks – particularly for children, seniors and users of mobility devices. The Action Plan will focus on high-risk areas with limited mobility options, in low-income neighborhoods and high crash areas.

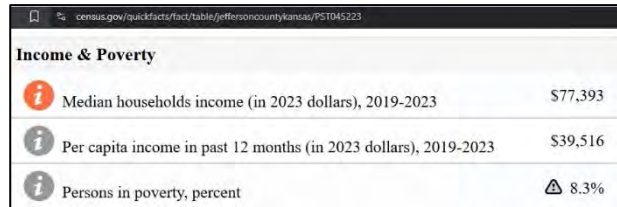
Selection Criteria: Safety Impact

Jefferson County suffered **20 roadway fatalities over the past five years**, yielding a fatality rate of **21.8 per 100,000 persons**, which exceeds the national threshold of 17.5. The SS4A funding will support a **countywide road safety audit, lighting and speed studies** and **pilot safety demonstrations** across participating communities. These studies will identify safety gaps and recommend low-cost, high-impact countermeasures.

Improved lighting, speed management and dedicated multi-use facilities will reduce conflicts and increase safety. **Curb extensions and road diets** will be executed with low-cost items (e.g., paint, signage, delineators) to test their validity in abating risk for vulnerable users, emphasizing evidence-based strategies to ensure practical, scalable and measurable outcomes, especially in areas with children and elderly pedestrians crossing major collectors and highways.

Selection Criteria: Underserved Communities

According to the 2020 census data, Jefferson County has 8.3% of people in poverty; however, two towns meet the LMI limit to utilize CDBG funding. Improvements will benefit all resident regardless of income level or mobility challenges. The Task Force will use equity-based data and community engagement to guide investment decisions, ensuring vulnerable populations are prioritized.



Income & Poverty	
Median households income (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023	\$77,393
Per capita income in past 12 months (in 2023 dollars), 2019-2023	\$39,516
Persons in poverty, percent	8.3%

Selection Criteria: Additional Safety Context

Many communities lack safe, continuous walking or biking routes, leaving non-motorized users exposed to vehicle traffic. The plan will address gaps such as unmarked pedestrian crossings, missing ramps and poorly lit corridors. Connecting trail networks to community destinations and between towns with a separate facility will reduce vehicle dependency, promote active transportation and improve health outcomes.

Demonstration projects will help define low-cost, effective solutions for long-term capital improvements. Lighting and speed studies will inform data-driven safety enhancements that reduce crash severity and support broader community well-being.

Additional Consideration: Budget Costs & Project Readiness

Jefferson County is requesting **\$480,800** in SS4A funding, with a **20% local match of \$120,200** from the **Kansas Build Fund**, for a total project cost of **\$601,000**. The funds will support development of the Action Plan, safety audits, speed and lighting studies, design-ready demonstration projects and grant administration.

SS4A Planning and Demonstration Grant Application - Supplemental Estimated Budget			
Task	Total	Requested	Match
Comprehensive Safety Action Plan for Jefferson County, Kansas & Communities	\$ 354,000.00	\$ 283,200.00	\$ 70,800.00
<i>Supplemental Planning Activities</i>			
Road Safety Audit	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Lighting/Speed Study	\$ 44,000.00	\$ 35,200.00	\$ 8,800.00
<i>Demonstration Activities</i>			
Curb Extensions	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 22,400.00	\$ 5,600.00
Road Diets	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Grant Administration	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Total Project Costs	\$ 601,000.00	\$ 480,800.00	\$ 120,200.00

The County is prepared to begin immediately upon award. **Blue Valley Consultants, LLC**, a woman-owned, disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE), will be invited to submit a competitive proposal. The Task Force will be formed, community engagement initiated and technical studies launched. The plan is expected to be completed within **24 months**.

Award Considerations

- **High Fatality Rate:** With a rate of 21.8 per 100,000, the County exceeds the national benchmark, justifying the need for immediate safety interventions.
- **First-Time Applicant:** Jefferson County has not previously received SS4A funding, though nearby cities Valley Falls and Nortonville have.

Conclusion

This Comprehensive Safety Action Plan provides a unique opportunity for Jefferson County and its communities. With SS4A support, JC&C will build a safer, more inclusive transportation network that fosters connectivity, encourages physical activity, improves health outcomes and protects all users – particularly the most vulnerable.



LEGEND

Future Shared Use Path

Pedestrian Conflict

Park Facility

Railroad Conflict

Commerce

Emergency Services

High Density Housing

Schools

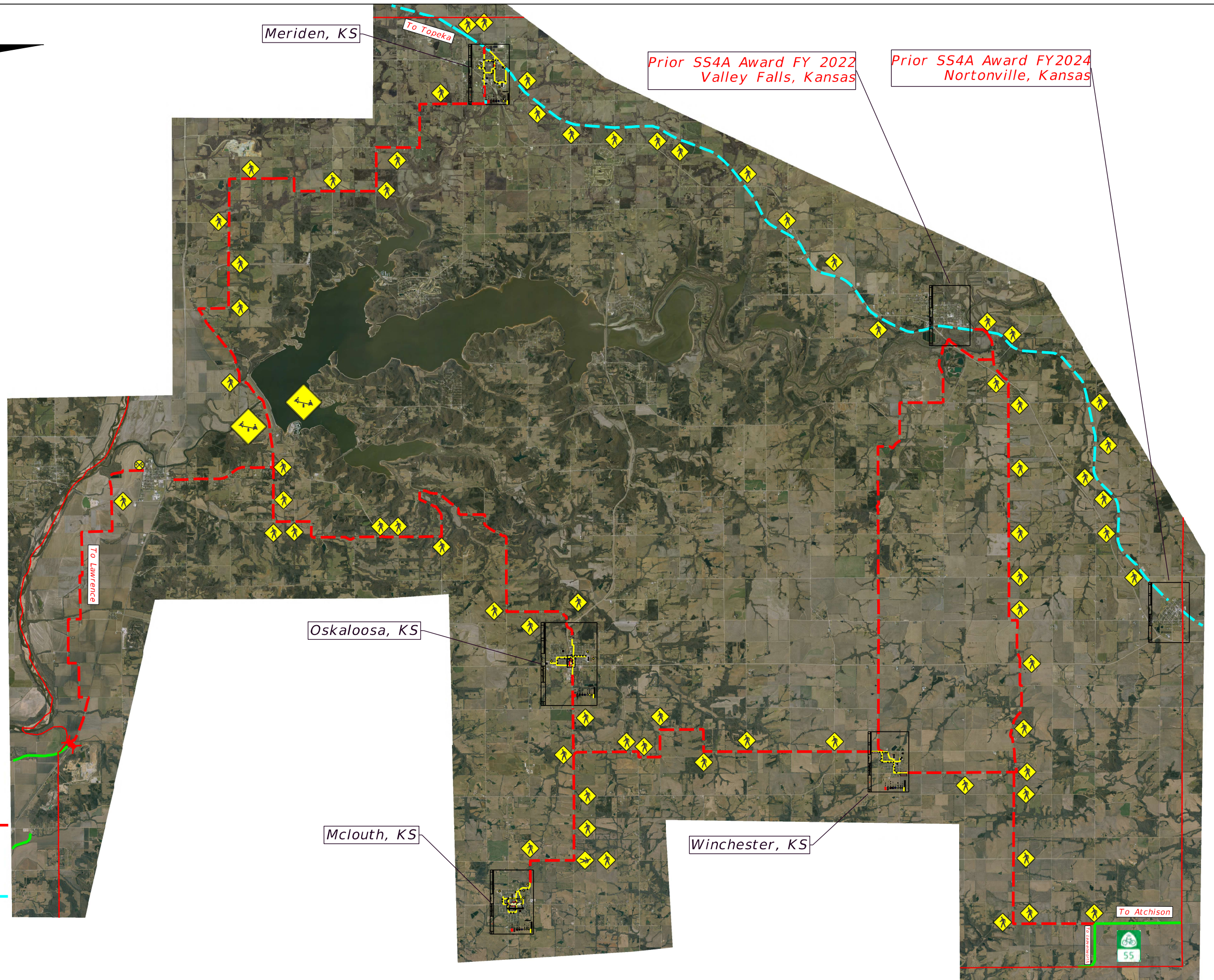
Bridges/Culverts

Existing Bike Trail

Sidewalk

Future County Trail

Future Rails to Trail



REVISIONS				<div>Blue Valley Consultants</div> <div>785-504-9450</div> <div>engineer@bluevalleyconsultants.com</div>	JEFFERSON COUNTY KANSAS			SAFE STREETS FOR ALL GRANT	
DATE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	DESCRIPTION		ROAD NO.	COUNTY	PROJECT ID		
						Jefferson			