

Kansas Water Plan Implementation

Kansas Water Authority

October 2024

Dynamic 10-year program – allows for adjustments along the way



Extensive public outreach within 4 months

28 RAC Meetings held from June-October

+

600 Summer Local Consult

500+ Fall Local Consult (on-demand just started/400 log ins with 23 survey responses)

250 Environmental Conference

200 Ag Industry Webinar

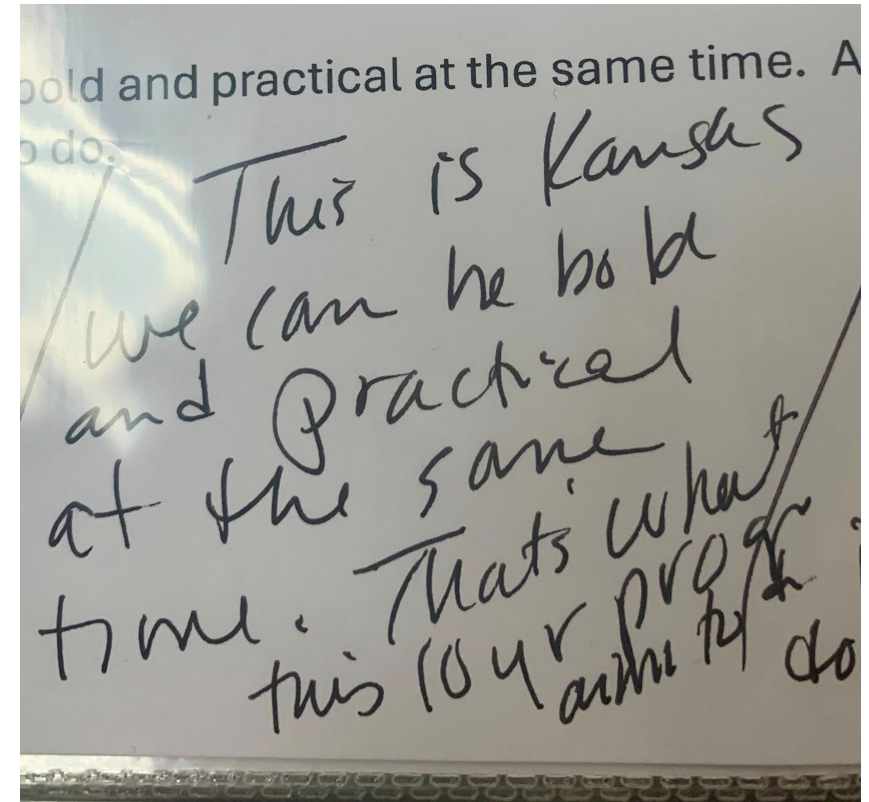
1,500+ Kansans have participated

Bold and Practical

Two questions, beginning today:

1. What could this feedback mean for an FY26 budget recommendation? \$
2. What could this feedback mean for a 10-year Water program?

10



Input sought in these 3 areas

1. CRITERIA	2. REASONABILTY	3. REVENUES
Why do you need us to set Shared Criteria?	Why do you need us to set Reasonable Standards?	Why do you need us to identify Revenue Sources?
This allows us to build a dynamic program that can be responsive to fluctuations in revenue and changing needs over 10 years – while remaining true to stakeholder values.	This helps us understand where we have consensus on potential revenue increases and policy changes.	It's easy to say you want more things. We need your help identify potential ways to pay for it that seem fair/reasonable.

Some criteria rose to the top across regions

Shared Criteria Rankings								
	NW	SW	NE	SC	NC	SE	LV	W
Resiliency	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Economic Impact	1	2		3			3	2
Stakeholder Input	3	3		2	3			3
Cost Effectiveness			2			3		
Environmental Impact					2			
Geographic Balance	3	3						
# Guiding Principles			3		3	3		
Leverage Federal Funds							3	
Measurable Impact							1	
Public-Private Partnership			3					
Regional Partnership				3		2		3

Gold = 1st

Silver = 2nd

Bronze = 3rd (Tie)

Kansans had this to say about Shared Criteria...

“You can’t have economic growth without resiliency, and you need resiliency to have economic growth.”

“Resiliency is a way to ensure the preservation of generational family farms.”

“Resiliency as currently defined {in handout} is too broad.”

“If we don’t deal with floods and droughts, we won’t have an economy.”

See Shared Criteria handout for context



Shared Criteria Candidates for Kansas Water Plan Implementation – More work will be needed to develop these concepts (or others that may be suggested) into usable metrics.

These 6 criteria below are included in the bracket for a prioritization exercise.

Criterion Description: Why this may be helpful to consider in prioritizing investments.	Potential Metrics: How it could be measured/applied.
Cost-Effectiveness: Local Consult (LC) participants wanted the State to have a sustainable long-term investment strategy and measuring how cost-effective strategies allows for making decisions that maximize the value of investments.	Perceived or calculated benefit of the strategy divided by the total cost.
Economic Impact: LC participants identified clean, secure, accessible water as an economic necessity. It's important to account for positive or negative economic impact an investment or policy change may have on a region or the state.	Forecasting changes in income, GDP or employment to create an economic score.
Number of Guiding Principles Impacted: LC participants asked for more "stackable programs," which include investments that serve more than one guiding principle. This would emphasize getting more bang for our buck by prioritizing investments that serve more than one principle.	Points based on the number of how many guiding principles the strategy significantly impacts.
Regional Partnership/Impact: This would incentivize communities and conservation districts working together to address more needs efficiently by prioritizing investments that strengthen regional resiliency by connecting water sources, addressing needs in multiple communities or providing more resources through partnerships.	Points based on the number of communities or conservation districts served by an investment.
Resiliency: This would prioritize investments that will help the state withstand droughts, floods, or other threats and secure its water sources for future generations of Kansans.	Points based on the expected life cycle of the investment.
Stakeholder Input: LC participants emphasized that local input needed to play a role in decision-making. It's helpful to have the people most impacted by decision have a role in shaping it. This would prioritize investments based on stakeholder support.	Points for strategies identified as regional priorities at Local Consult, or Regional Advisory Committee (RAC input).

How were these 6 determined? These respond to input we received from summer Local Consult participants and the Kansas Water Authority. However, they are meant to be a starting point, not necessarily the top choices for our region. You have the

Please note that these factors are considered before shared criteria would be applied, which is why they are not included in the bracket:

Input sought in these 3 areas

1. CRITERIA

Why do you need us to set Shared Criteria?

This allows us to build a dynamic program that can be responsive to fluctuations in revenue and changing needs over 10 years – while remaining true to stakeholder values.

2. REASONABILTY

Why do you need us to set Reasonable Standards?

This helps us understand where we have consensus on potential revenue increases and policy changes.

3. REVENUES

Why do you need us to identify Revenue Sources?

It's easy to say you want more things. We need your help identify potential ways to pay for it that seem fair/reasonable.

Input related to the \$140M Investment Scenario

- Kansans support a ramp up to \$140M annually.
- Participants acknowledged that the current funding is not enough but jumping to \$140M is too much at once. More time is needed to build capacity in agencies and to develop projects so the additional funding should escalate over time.

See Outcome & Investment handout for context

Kansas Water Plan Implementation Investment Levels and Outcomes over 10 years

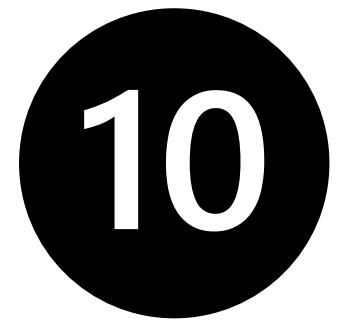
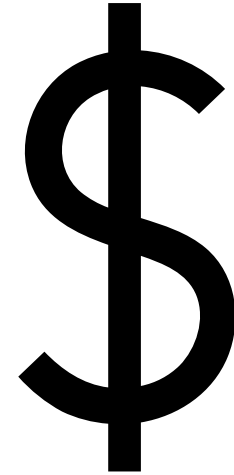
Category	Current Funding Level Outcomes Approximately \$60 Million/Year	Additional Investment Outcomes Approximately \$140 Million/Year
Aquifer	\$13 M/year	\$18 M average/year
Improve Irrigation System Efficiency	• Technology upgrades for 3,000 systems (15%) and system audits for 1,500 systems (8%) .	• Technology upgrades for 10,000 systems (50%) and system audits for 15,000 systems (75%) .
Secure Water Sources for Vulnerable Communities	• Purchase of 3,000 acre feet of water rights through community block grants (approximately 20 community grants).	• Purchase of 8,250 acre feet of water rights through community block grants (approximately 30 community grants).
Feedlot & Stockwater System Upgrades	• 20 feedlots/dairies (35%)	
Monitoring & Modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of 1,400 annual well measurements • Monitoring of 24 index wells • Groundwater model updates on a 10-year rotation 	
Management, Operations, and Partnerships	• Ongoing funding for interstate water compact issues, subbasin water resources management, state-local partnerships, water use studies, program evaluations etc.	
Reservoir	\$8 M /year	\$52 M average/year
Reduce Sedimentation	• Tuttle Creek Water Injection Dredging Pilot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% in-reservoir sediment managed at (benefits 1.7M Kansans) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tuttle Creek Lake by 2030 - John Redmond Reservoir and Kanopolis Lake by 2031 - Council Grove Lake, Elk City Lake, and Perry Lake by 2032
Evaluate and Incentivize Regionalization	• Ongoing operation & maintenance costs for state-owned storage in US Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs.	• Evaluate and secure water supply for up to 350,000 people through regional interconnection projects for rural water districts, water assurance or access districts, and small to mid-sized cities to avoid water crises during times of drought and ensure capacity for economic development.
Watershed Protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain targeted reservoir initiative in Kanopolis, Fall River, John Redmond, Tuttle Creek, Perry, Pomona, and Hillsdale reservoirs. • Maintain stabilization projects around Perry, Tuttle Creek, John Redmond. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 streambanks stabilized (50% of need). • Triple enrollment in Best Management Practices (BMP) practices and expand to Eastern Kansas.
Improve Dam Safety	• 120 dams (24%) addressed	• 200 dams (40%) addressed

“We have underfunded water for decades. There just wasn’t money coming from the Legislature.”

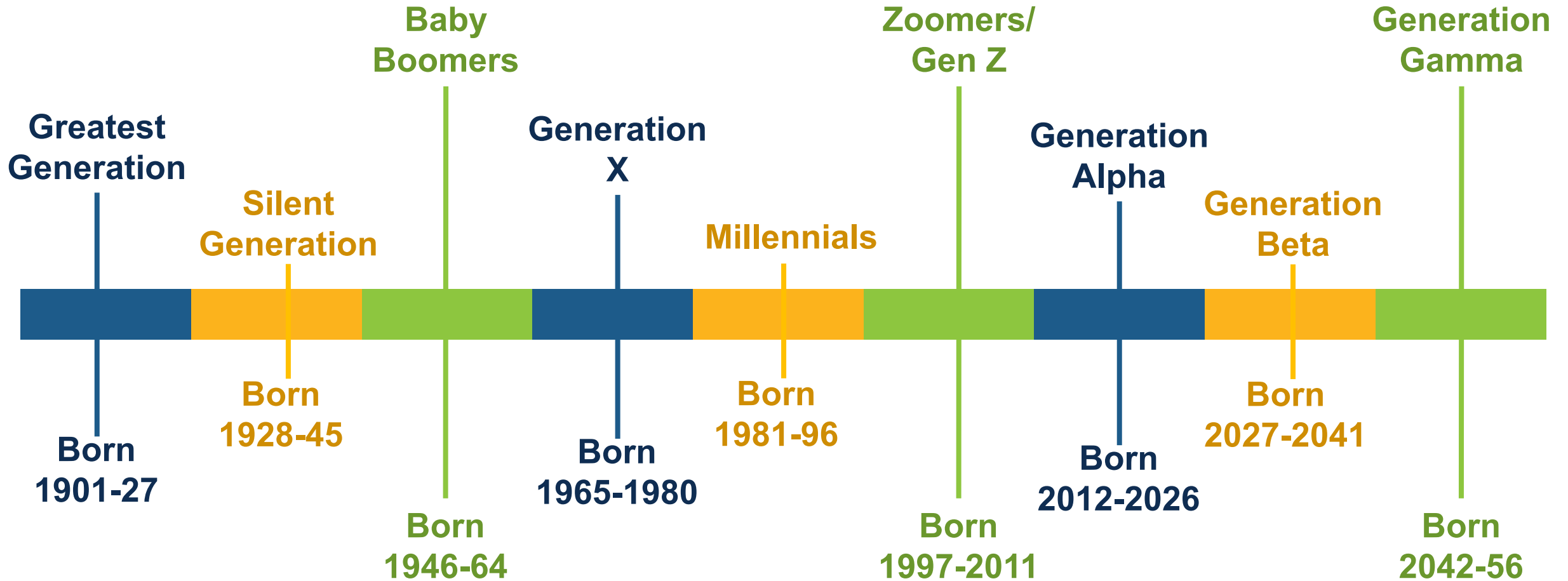
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Ramping up to \$140M would allow for...

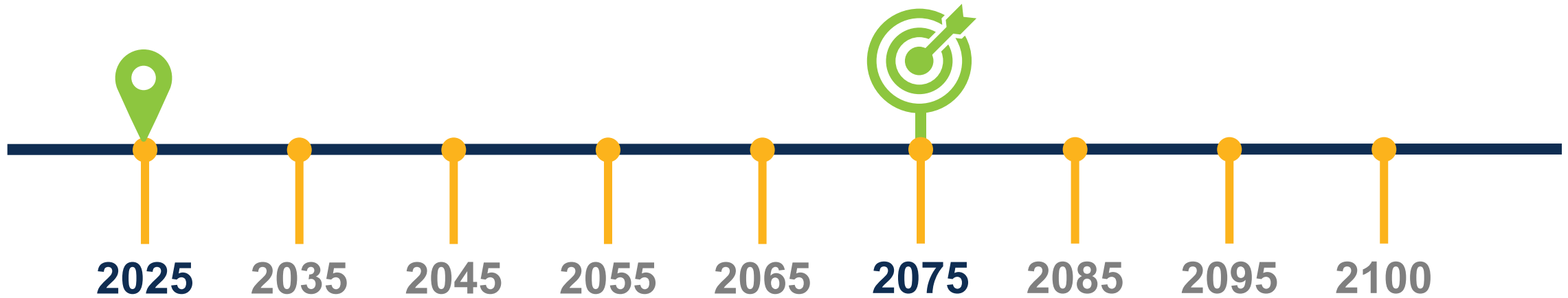
1. **Investing more in programs that we can measure** and know are effective to continue momentum and progress.
2. **Evaluating programs or investments** where we cannot directly illustrate impact.
3. **Building capacity, processes, and accountability** necessary to deliver current or future funding increases quickly and efficiently.



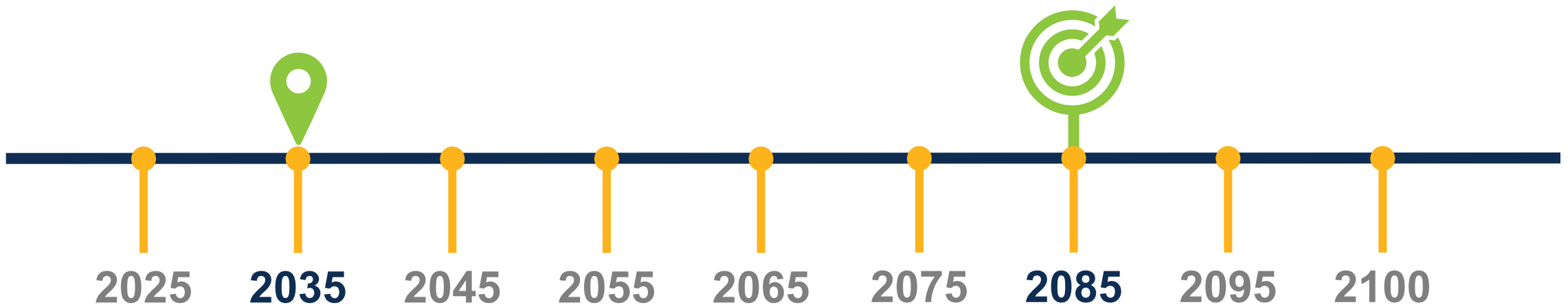
Waves of 3 – A Generational Promise



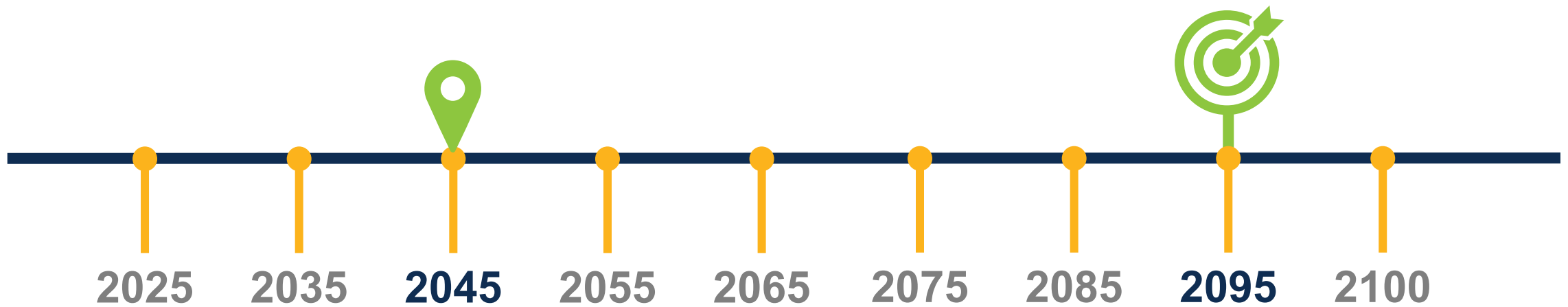
A rolling generational planning target



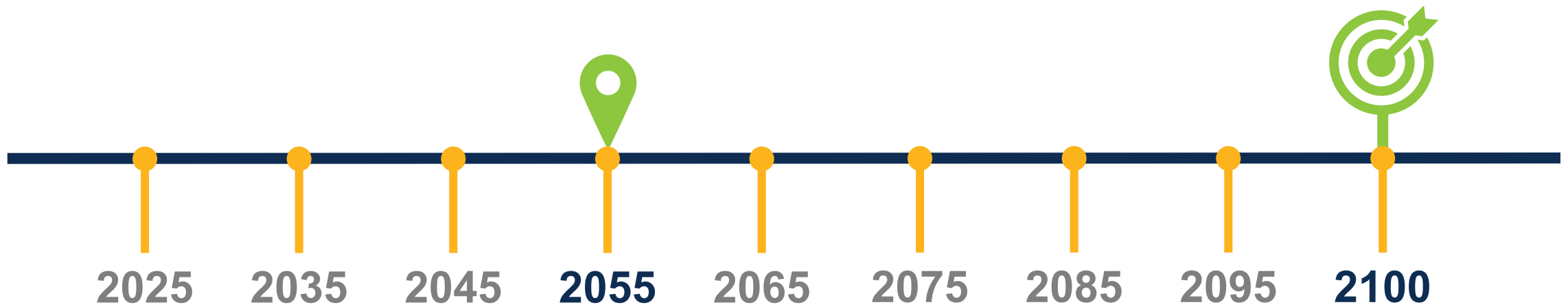
A rolling generational planning target



A rolling generational planning target



A rolling generational planning target



Kansans support a generational promise

- Support for setting a rolling approach **where each generation is responsible for securing enough water for future generations.**

- Some suggested it may look differently depending on the region and its economic needs

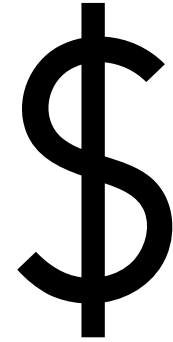
- Tough conversations around whether this is feasible to do for all communities, specifically those with very small populations

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“We need forever water. We are seeing small towns that were once dying now growing thanks to broadband. More generations are moving back.”


Kansans support regional partnerships

- **More state support is needed to bring them to fruition.** Support for
 - Long-term water supply planning
 - Identifying and developing regional projects
 - Grant writing to secure more funding
 - Technical assistance to navigate existing water programs
- They are willing to increase requirements, such as requiring long-term water supply planning, for state loans/grants if more support is provided



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Kansans want to see improved delivery by...

- Increasing **focus on measurable progress** through prioritization, projects **and timely evaluations.** 
 - Focus on problem-solving rather than continuing funding programs
- **Streamlining programs** to make them more accessible for communities and **improving flexibility for agencies** to leverage dollars further

“Would it be possible to have programs reviewed by a third party? State agencies do not want to lose a program or funding.”

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Kansans support increased education/awareness

- This includes
 - K-12 education on water issues
 - Increase outreach to irrigation farmers about ways to reduce useage through improved technology
 - Public awareness campaign
 - “Imagine a future without water.”

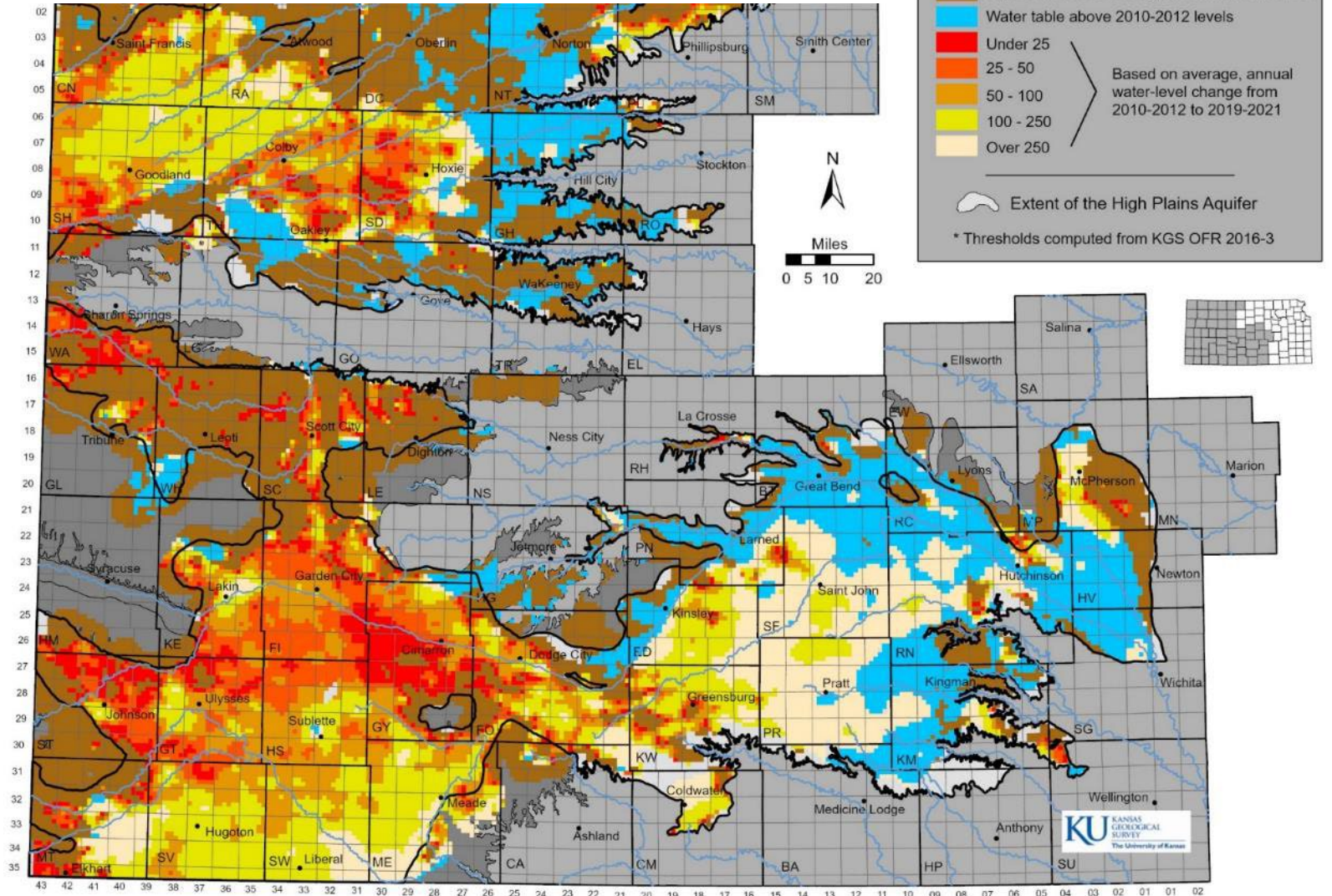




Aquifer

Useable life

- Estimated usable life varies across aquifer
- Counties reliant on the aquifer account for **\$57 billion in economic output** annually for Kansas



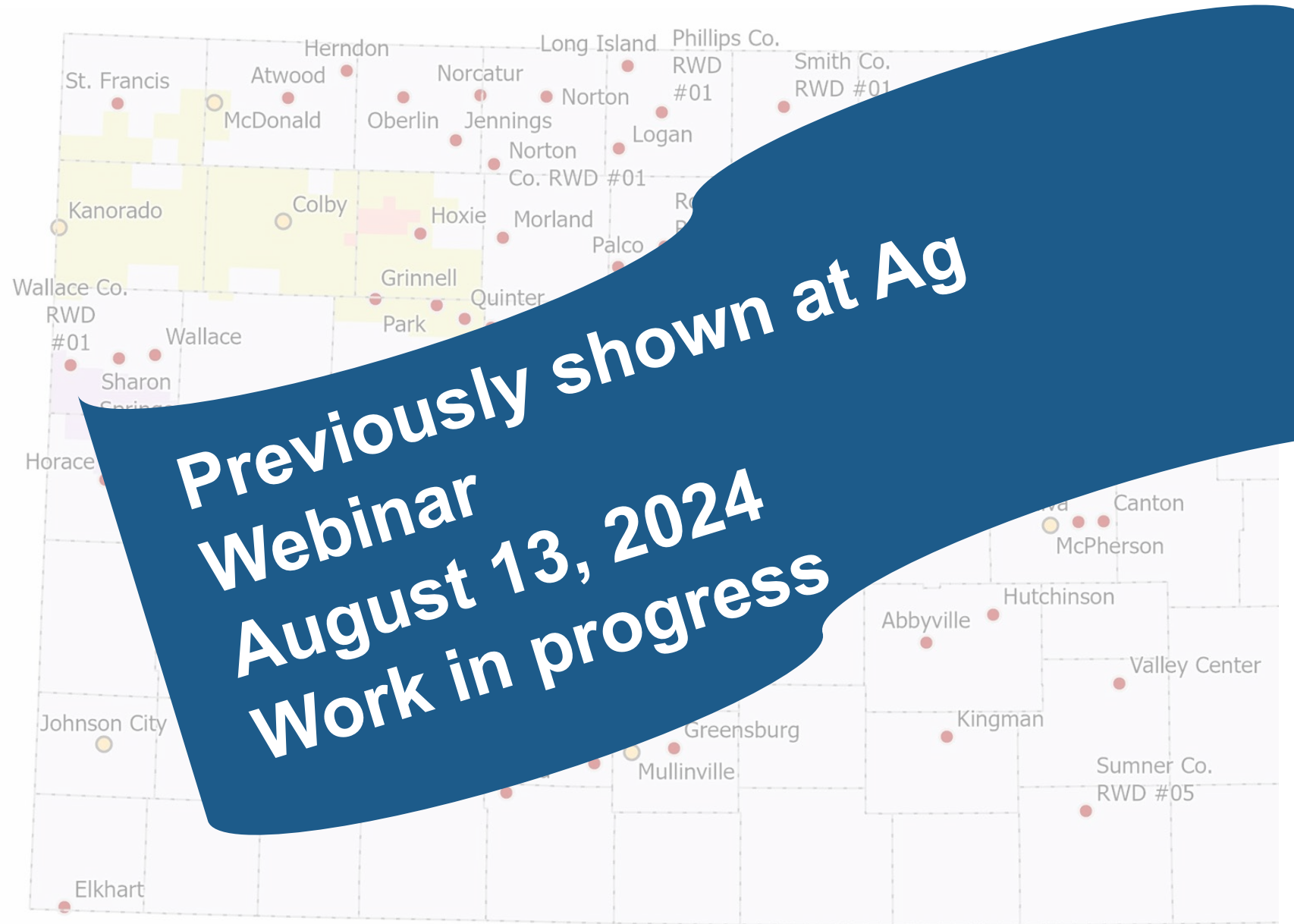
Map to help discussions and problem solving; improve decision-making and investments

GMD4

Sheridan 6

GMD1 Four County

Wichita County



Improve decision making and investments

- KDOT economic impact analysis as a new factor
- Working group input into methodology (e.g., evaluate rural and urban highways separately)
- Accept/encourage other data from communities
- Measures change as conditions change (jobs in 2010 and then time delay used in 2020)

Map to help discussions and problem solving;
improve decision-making and investments



WORK IN PROGRESS

Map to help discussions and problem solving; improve decision-making and investments

WORK IN PROGRESS



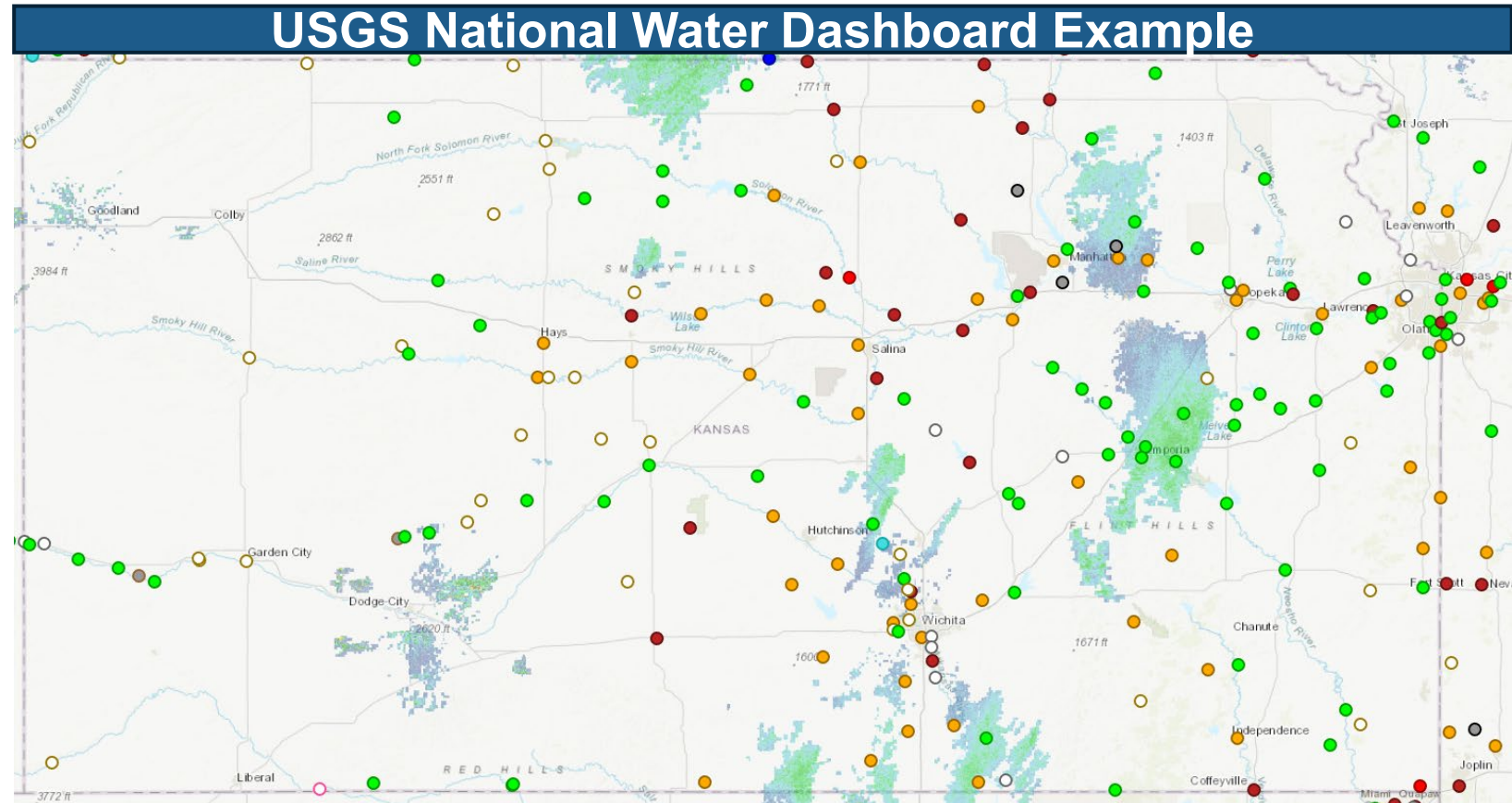
- Reservoir
- Supplied Areas
- Drought
- Vulnerable Within 50 Years

Kansas dashboard/resource center

- No wrong door
- Tool for cities, counties and state
- Provides information on water usage
- Connects to resources to address challenges

\$

10



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No strong consensus on funding source(s)

- There was consensus around these points:
 - Kansans want an **equitable funding approach** where everyone contributes their **fair share** 10
 - They want **local and federal tax dollars** to contribute to the program 10
 - They want to **see their tax dollars go to investments that benefit their regions** 10

See Revenue Handout



INPUT NEEDED TODAY:
Local Consult Round 2 Scenario and How to Pay for It

Kansans across the state emphasized the importance of water quality and availability during the first round of Water Local Consult meetings held in June 2024. They also weighed in on three investment scenario options that showed how state funding could be used to address aquifer, water quality and reservoir problems. Using that feedback and recognizing we cannot afford the combined 10-year, \$3.7B "Game Changer" scenarios that were presented, the Kansas Water Office along with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and the Kansas Department of Agriculture have crafted a new 10-year \$1.4B investment scenario to address our most pressing water problems. First, here is some background information on the investment scenario you will be discussing today.

- **All existing programs currently funded at \$60M per year remain in place***. However, evaluation of many of those programs is called for so that outcomes can be measured against investments and programs can be modified where needed. Questions about the approach to modifying programs will be presented during the breakout discussions. (*Note, this is the "Stand Pat" scenario presented in June 2024).
- **Based on the first round of local consult input, an additional \$80M per year investment (on average) scenario is presented in the Investment Levels and Outcomes handout.** This represents \$140M average annual investment in addressing our most pressing aquifer, quality and reservoir problems (\$60M current + \$80M additional scenario) for a total of \$140M over 10 years.
- **How to pay for any additional investments** will also be discussed in the breakout sessions, and these discussions will inform future budget requests.
- Discussions in the breakout sessions will focus on **criteria that could be used to prioritize investments, regardless of investment levels.** A list of those criteria is included in a separate handout.
- **Today is not just about more money.** It's about data, education and transparency on water issues within communities (usable life, water quality, etc) and what part the State has in helping to address those issues so Kansans see results at a good pace. It's about measuring and sharing results and making changes so we've solved problems by the end of the 10-year program. It's about getting good value for taxpayer dollars, not just building programs. These aren't easy things to do or talk about, but they're important to tackle to make real progress in providing Kansans with access to clean, secure water supplies for generations to come.

TODAY'S DISCUSSION

In the breakout groups, you will be asked your thoughts on current and potential sources of funding and what mix of funding makes sense given the water problems we face in Kansas. This is not an exhaustive list of potential revenue sources and does NOT represent a recommendation of the state. We want to hear your feedback!

A thought starter example is provided that could generate \$140M per year, which is an increase of \$80M per year on average. This example revenue chart demonstrates a few of the options that could make up the increased investment.

In your breakout groups, you will discuss general support for the different types of revenue sources and whether they should be considered in creating a funding plan for future water investments.

EXAMPLE FOR TODAY'S DISCUSSION

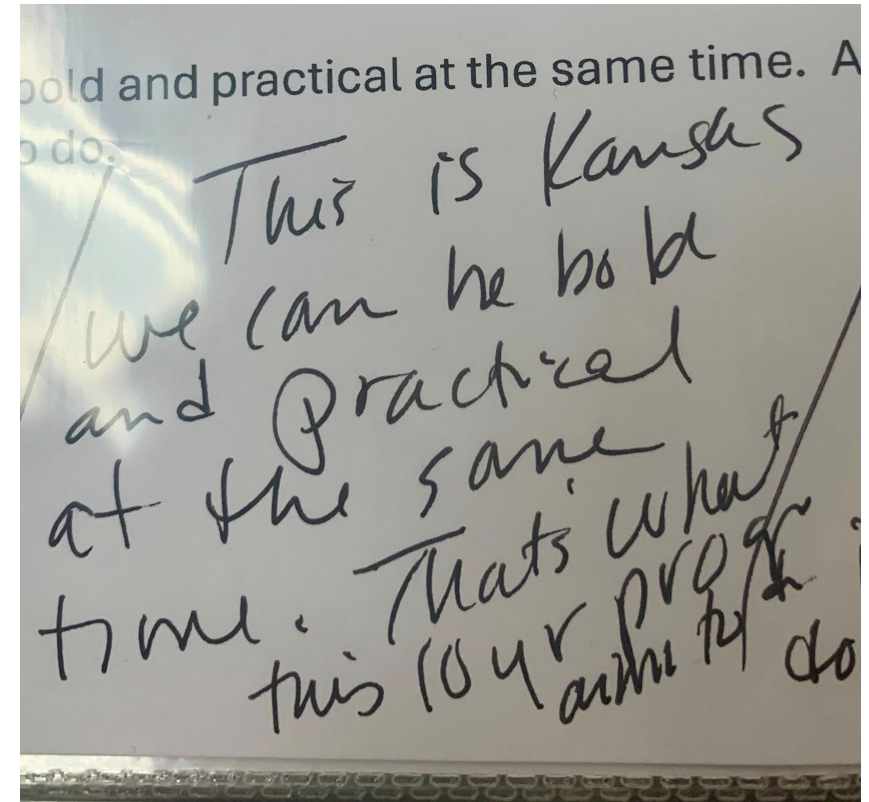
	Current Funding	Example New Funding	Example Total Funding
General Fund Transfer	\$41M	+	= \$41M
Existing Fees	\$13M	+	= \$26M
Economic Development Initiatives Fund Transfer	\$2M	+	= \$2M
Carry Over Funding	\$4M	+	= \$4M
Agriculture Irrigation Water Use Fee		+	= \$8M
Sales Tax		+	= \$35M
Bonding		+	= \$20M
Severance Tax Increase		+	= \$4M
Program Total	\$60M	+	= \$140M

Bold and Practical

Two questions, beginning today:

1. What could this feedback mean for an FY26 budget recommendation? \$
2. What could this feedback mean for a 10-year Water program?

10



From participants: to consider for FY26 budget and 10-year program

- What is the current return on investment with budgets set at \$60 million? How is water quality/conservation being impacted? I want to know more about how existing funds are spent before committing to a tax increase
- We need to keep spreading the message that we are all in this together.
- Use a farm's location as a priority in determining whether it receives state funding but cautioned against making it a requirement. Give bonus points to applications that are willing to reduce usage.
- A community without a plan is a bad investment.
- There has been a positive shift from producers to care more about inputs such as water than in the past.
- Provide tech assistance to communities to complete projects.
- Regionalization may be necessary to achieve 2 generations of water.

A bold and practical way to deliver for Kansans

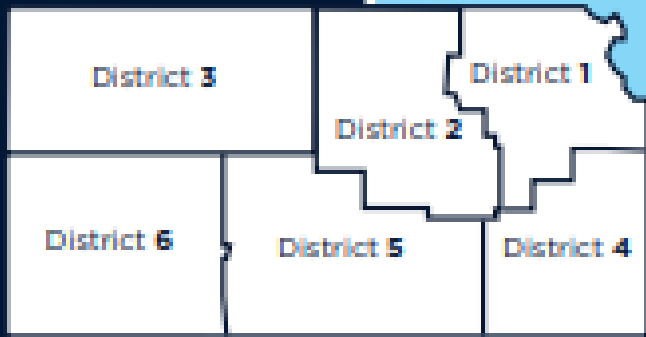


Lessons from IKE

+ A NEW PROGRAM

	T-WORKS Planned	T-WORKS Actual 8-19	FORWARD With Bonding
Preservation	\$4.6B	\$3.2B	\$5.0B
Preservation+ & Innovative Technology			300M
Mod/Expansion	1.7B	1.2B	2.3B
(without T-WORKS)			
Eco Devo	100M	100M	200M
Modes	200M	200M	200M
Cost Share/Safety/Local Bridge			300M
SOCHF	1.6B	1.5B	1.6B
Total	\$8.2B	\$6.2B	\$9.9B

majority of our total program investments.



May 2020

	MODERNIZATION & EXPANSION (ESTIMATED MINIMUM)	PRESERVATION SPENDING (ESTIMATED MINIMUM)	TOTAL (ESTIMATED MINIMUM)
DISTRICT 1*	\$500 MILLION	\$1.3 BILLION	\$1.8 BILLION
DISTRICT 2	\$70 MILLION	\$600 MILLION	\$670 MILLION
DISTRICT 3*	\$50 MILLION	\$700 MILLION	\$750 MILLION
DISTRICT 4	\$100 MILLION	\$550 MILLION	\$650 MILLION
DISTRICT 5	\$300 MILLION	\$800 MILLION	\$1.2 BILLION
DISTRICT 6	\$100 MILLION	\$500 MILLION	\$600 MILLION
TOTAL	\$1.1 BILLION	\$4.4 BILLION	\$5.6 BILLION

*PRESERVATION WORK ON I-70 IS INCLUDED

AVERAGE PRESERVATION COST PER MILE RURAL: \$160,000

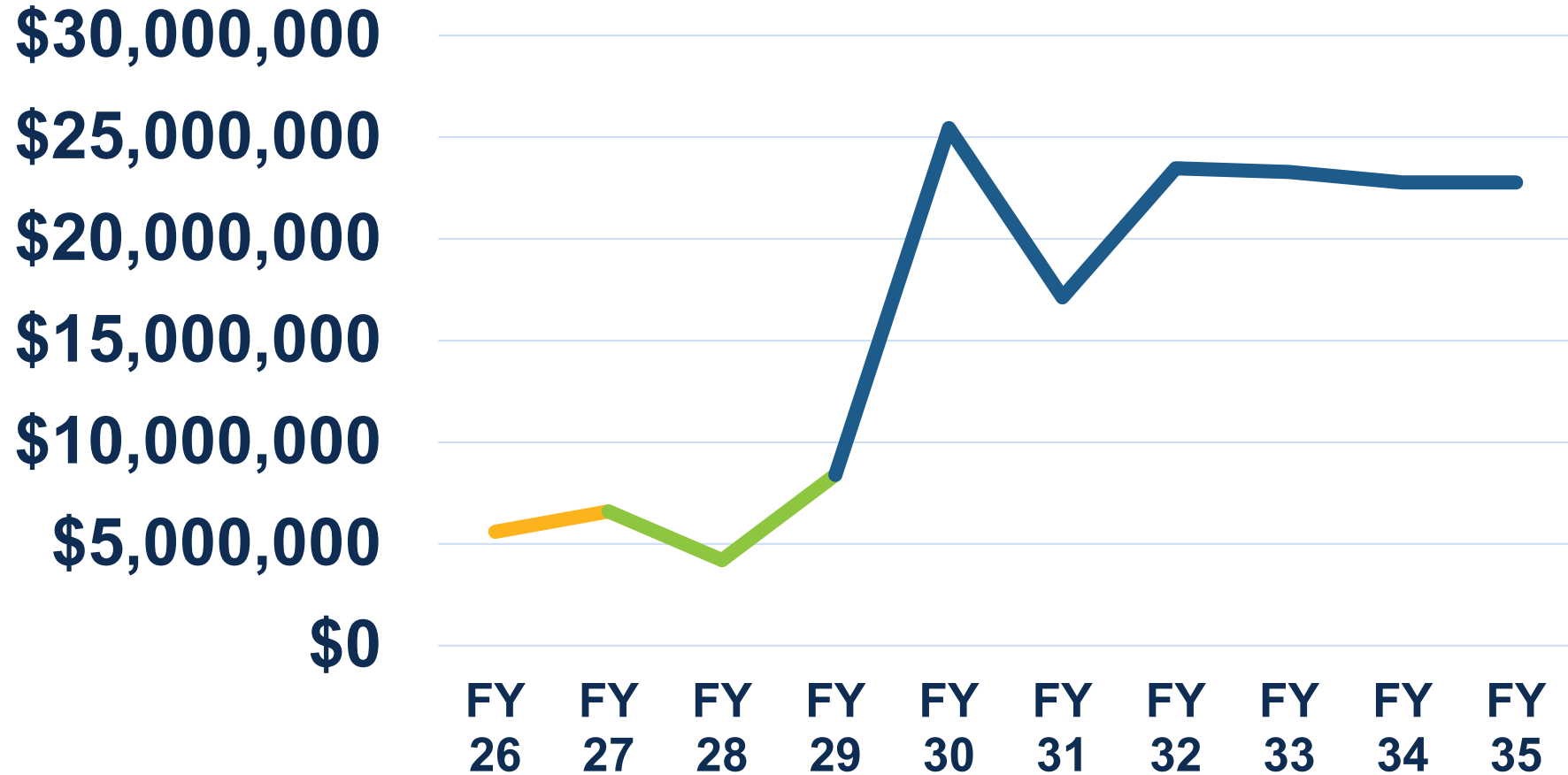
AVERAGE PRESERVATION COST PER MILE URBAN: \$900,000

Governor's Charge

- Apply the **same long-range inclusive, nimble, and well-financed approach to our water issues** that the state has **to transportation**.
- Craft a **long-term framework** around the 5 guiding principles
- **Recommendations** should include:
 - Policy changes
 - Ways to improve state capacity and water management
 - Braiding federal, state and local funding
 - Measurable goals and timelines
 - Input from state and local stakeholders



In-Reservoir Management Program Example



Ramp Up:
Feasibility Study & Evaluation

Design

Implementation

Transition / Ramp Up Year

1. Optimize existing \$60M based on Local Consult and RAC input across the principle areas
 - Consider ramp up costs within the \$60M
2. How should the state invest an additional \$10M or \$20M across the 5 guiding principle “buckets?”
 - What types of initiatives should the state prioritize within the buckets? Are these recommendations scalable and measurable?
 - Are they responsive to public input as received through the Local Consult process and the local RACs?