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NEWS from U.S. Senator Bob Dole

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DOLE ANNOUNCES GUIDELINES ON HIGHWAY FEASIBILITY STUDIES

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Senator Bob Dole today said that he had learned federal guidelines for the study of three possible new superhighway routes in Kansas have been issued.

Two Kansas route studies, sponsored by Senator Dole, were included in the 1973 Federal-Aid Highway Act. These routes are between Salina and Watertown, South Dakota, and between Wichita and Tucumari, New Mexico. Another route, between Kansas City and Baton Rouge, Louisiana was also included in the Act.

The federal guidelines direct the State Highway Department to conduct studies and submit reports on each route and possible alternatives to the Federal Highway Administration by October 1, 1974. A Department of Transportation report will then be submitted to Congress by January 1, 1975.

The State reports are to take into account "concerns for environmental, social and economic impacts as well as traditional engineering and cost conditions."

In the process of making each study the State is requested "to conduct at least one advertised informational meeting for each route, to obtain citizen recommendations regarding the feasibility and necessity of and possible routings for that ... route."

"I am hopeful that these studies will document the need for improved highways along these routes in Kansas," Senator Dole said. "These routes make particularly good sense, because they fill obvious gaps in the pattern of the Interstate Highway System."