

Southeast District Office  
411 W. Fourteenth  
Chanute, KS 66720-2894



phone: 620-431-1000  
fax: 620-431-4406  
[www.ksdot.org](http://www.ksdot.org)

Mike King, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 9, 2015

**News contact:** Priscilla Petersen, (620) 431-1000; cell (620) 212-2870;  
[Priscilla@ksdot.org](mailto:Priscilla@ksdot.org)

## **U.S. 59 mill and overlay project south of Parsons to start next week**

Monday, Sept. 14, weather permitting, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) expects to begin work on a mill/overlay and highway widening project on U.S. 59 in Labette County. The 8.3-mile project starts at the west junction of U.S. 59/U.S. 160 and continues north to the south city limits of Parsons.

Work will take place during daylight hours Monday through Friday, and on occasional Saturdays. The contractor will mill 2 inches off the existing pavement, followed by the placement of a 3-inch asphalt overlay. The existing highway shoulders will be extended to 10 feet in width and paved with asphalt. The decks of two bridges on this stretch of U.S. 59 will also be patched and resurfaced, and new guardrail installed.

Flaggers and a pilot car will direct one-lane traffic through the work zone, with delays of 15 minutes or less. Signs will be posted on side roads instructing traffic to wait for the pilot car. There is a driving lane width restriction of 11 feet in the work zone, with no large structures or super loads allowed.

The project will be shut down during the 2015-2016 winter season, with activity resuming in the spring of 2016. Weather permitting, the entire project should be completed by midsummer 2016.

KDOT awarded Shilling Construction Co., Inc., of Manhattan the \$6.1 million construction contract. Bob Gudgen, construction engineer at the KDOT Pittsburg office, reminds drivers to slow down, obey the signs and flaggers, and "Give 'Em a Brake!" in

the work zone. Persons with questions concerning this preservation project may contact Gudgen at (620) 231-7560 or Priscilla Petersen at 1-877-550-5368. The project is funded under the T-WORKS transportation program. For additional information concerning T-WORKS visit the website, [www.ksdot.org/tworks](http://www.ksdot.org/tworks).

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