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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KDOT replacing K-39 bridge on east side of Chanute**

Monday, May 19, weather permitting, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will begin a project to replace the old railroad overpass on K-39 (East Elm Street) at the eastern edge of Chanute. The bridge is 2¼ miles east of the K-39/U.S.169 junction.

The bridge will be closed to through traffic at the work zone. Eastbound K-39 traffic will follow a short signed detour on city streets: from K-39 turn south on South Central Avenue and proceed to East Main Street; turn east on East Main and continue to the intersection with K-39. Westbound K-39 traffic should follow the same route in the opposite direction.

A short section of the Katy Hike/Bike Trail, from the East Main Street trailhead to a point just north of the bridge, will be closed for the duration of the project. The rest of the trail will remain open.

The new bridge will be slightly lower than the existing structure. It will have a roadway of 44 feet, with two 12-foot driving lanes and 10-foot shoulders. KDOT awarded the construction contract of approximately \$1.7 million to B&B Bridge Company of St. Paul, Kan. Barring any unforeseen delays, KDOT expects the new bridge to be open to traffic by June 2015.

Persons with questions concerning the project may contact KDOT Pittsburg Area Construction Engineer Bob Gudgen at (620) 231-7560 or Southeast Kansas Public

Affairs Manager 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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