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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# I-70 Construction to resume in Dickinson County

Construction on I-70 in Dickinson County is slated to resume on Monday, March 17, 2014. Beginning later the same week all traffic will be moved onto the improved eastbound outside lane while work on the westbound lanes, ramps and bridges is completed. Westbound traffic will run head to head with eastbound traffic from the east end of the project west to the Jeep Rd Interchange (277) then cross over to the existing westbound lanes. A new cross-over will be constructed to allow westbound traffic to exit I-70 at the Abilene Interchange (275). Once completed head to head traffic will be in effect the entire length of the project. The project begins 1 mile west of the I-70/K-15 Interchange east to a point 1.5 miles west of exit 286 (Chapman).

In order to minimize the duration of ramp closures this year construction will be completed in 4 phases. Phase 1 will include the demolition of the west bound bridge over K-43, completion of work in the East bound lanes at Jeep Rd, and the building of a cross-over at the K-15/I-70 interchange. East Bound ramps at Jeep Rd will be closed during this time. The tentative schedule for this phase is March 17<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Phase 2 will continue with the construction of the bridge over K-43. The West bound ramps of K-43 will be closed for repair work, and the west bound lanes on I-70 will be completely shut down. Entrance and Exit ramps at Jeep Rd and K-15 will be open during this time. The tentative schedule for this phase is April 28<sup>th</sup> to June 14<sup>th</sup>.

Phase 3 will shut down the West Bound ramps at K-15 for repair and the west bound lanes will still be under construction. West bound traffic will be able to access Abilene from either Jeep Rd or Fair Rd. Ramps at K-43 will be open. The tentative schedule for this phase is June 16<sup>th</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup>.

Phase 4 will close down the West Bound ramps at Jeep Rd. Ramps at K-15 and K-43 will be open at this time and construction on the west bound lanes on I-70 will begin to conclude. The tentative schedule for this phase is July 28<sup>th</sup> to September 6<sup>th</sup>. Signs and message boards will be installed before each phase to detour the public around the ramp closures.

Each phase is slated for completion in 6 weeks. An incentive/disincentive package has been added to the contract minimize ramp closure times at K-15, Jeep Rd, and K-43.

The calendar completion date for this project is November 1, 2014.

Ideker, Inc. of St. Joseph, MO., is the prime contractor for this project.

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700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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