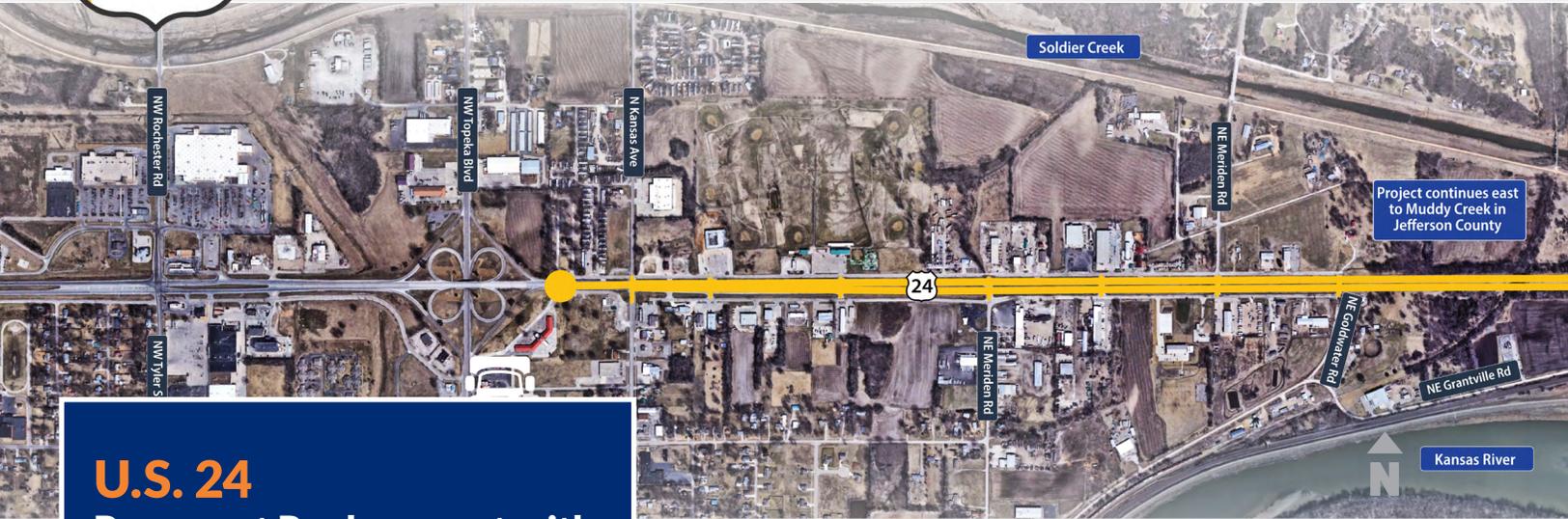




# Improvement Project

Project Update | March, 2021

## U.S. 24 Topeka Blvd - Muddy Creek



### U.S. 24

### Pavement Replacement with Added Benefits

The Kansas Department of Transportation, (KDOT) in partnership with the City of Topeka, is planning a U.S. 24 pavement replacement project with added safety, access and anticipated economic development benefits.

The overall project area is 5.5 miles along U.S. 24 beginning at the intersection west of N. Kansas Avenue continuing east to Muddy Creek in Jefferson County.

The major urban intersections in the project area include U.S. 24 & N. Kansas Avenue (signalized intersection), U.S. 24 and N.E. Meriden Road (two offset intersections), and U.S. 24 & N.E. Goldwater Road. Planned improvements are in alignment with the City of Topeka Comprehensive Plan 2040, and this section along U.S. 24 is expected to remain primarily as commercial and industrial land uses.

### Anticipated Safety Benefits

The existing crash records and traffic safety study completed in December 2018 found that the overall crash rate along the Shawnee County portion of U.S. 24 was 6% higher than statewide comparisons. The fatal crash rate in this area was 150% higher. About three-fourths of crashes were vehicle-to-vehicle crashes and about half of those were side impact (or T-bone) crashes.

- **Planned Safety Improvements** – Access management improvements are expected to **reduce conflict points along U.S. 24 by approximately 70%**, which should result in reduced crash frequency and severity.
- **Streamlined Access** – A series of median treatments have been designed to continue to allow access to the businesses along U.S. 24 while maintaining traffic flow.
- **Economic Development Opportunities** – In addition to important safety benefits, planned frontage road improvements could encourage additional investments into this important area corridor. Currently there are several parcels that could be developed for commercial, industrial, or residential uses.

### Next Steps

KDOT and its consultant team are working to finalize the project design and deliver a 'shovel-ready' project for when funding may become available through the new IKE Program.

An online open house is scheduled for **April 15, 2021 from 5:00-6:30pm**. There will be a 30-minute presentation with 60 minutes to answer questions.

**Register to attend online:** [rebrand.ly/US24openhouse](https://rebrand.ly/US24openhouse)

**Join by phone:** 1-312-626-6799 | Webinar ID: 854 9340 6127

**For more information contact:**

Steve Baalman, P.E., KDOT Metro Engineer: [steve.baalman@ks.gov](mailto:steve.baalman@ks.gov)

Kelly Kultala, KDOT Public Affairs: [kelly.kultala@ks.gov](mailto:kelly.kultala@ks.gov)



To request an alternative accessible format of a KDOT publication, please contact the Division of Communications: Eisenhower Building - 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3745 or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.