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KDOT Launches Online Survey for US 50 Expansion

Asks citizens to comment on the T-WORKS project

If you use US 50 to commute between Cimarron and Dodge City or as part of your travels through Gray and Ford Counties, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) encourages you to participate in an online survey at www.us50survey1.com now through July 21, 2012. A link to the survey is also available on the project web page at www.tinyurl.com/7h2vgx5 (US 50 in Gray County) and www.tinyurl.com/82pptvm (US 50 in Ford County). Take this short survey to tell us what kinds of highway improvements should be included with the refined concept for the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City and which potential impacts concern you most. Your responses will help refine the conceptual improvement plans for US 50.

KDOT is initiating the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City to expand 16 miles of US 50 as a four-lane expressway. The project is included among six Southwest Kansas highway modernization and expansion projects that are funded through T-WORKS, Kansas' 10-year \$8 billion transportation program designed to create jobs, preserve highway infrastructure, and provide multimodal economic development opportunities across the state. KDOT has worked with communities, including Cimarron, Dodge City, and Gray and Ford Counties to identify this project as a priority for the T-WORKS Program. KDOT is planning to use T-WORKS funds to begin building the improvements to US 50 in Gray and Ford Counties during 2018. Construction activities are anticipated to last up to three years.

A 2005 concept study on US 400 (US 50) was undertaken to evaluate safety, congestion, truck traffic, and access through the corridor. The US 400 Location and

Design Concept Report (2005) recommended developing a four-lane expressway from Garden City to four miles east of Mullinville and to the north of both Cimarron and Dodge City. While this earlier report will be considered in the current discovery effort, the T-WORKS US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City proposes to expand US 50 (US 400) along or near the existing roadway as feasible.

The project is currently in Phase 1 (Discovery) of KDOT's four-phase project development process. During Phase 1 the design team will examine existing conditions, opportunities, and constraints that impact the proposed expansion along with their associated costs. Phase 1 will conclude with the development of refined conceptual improvement plans for the highway. Phase 2 (Preliminary Design) is anticipated to begin in 2013 and involves developing preliminary plans for the expansion. Final design plans will be developed in Phase 3 and the expansion will be built in Phase 4 beginning in the spring of 2018.

For more information about the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City, visit the project web pages at www.tinyurl.com/7h2vgx5 (US 50 in Gray County) and www.tinyurl.com/82pptvm (US 50 in Ford County) or call the project information line at 888-775-3685. You can also contact KDOT Area Engineer Dale Luedke at dalel@ksdot.org and 620-227-6122 or Kirk Hutchinson, KDOT Southwest District Public Affairs Manager, at 620-276-3241 and kirk.hutchinson@ksdot.org. The project email address is US-50@cimarrontododgecity.com.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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