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NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pedestrian Bridge Project Scheduled to Begin on US-75 in Osage County

Weather permitting, **on Tuesday, June 1 at 7:00 a.m.**, a project will begin to install a new pedestrian bridge over US-75 located approximately .28 miles north of the K-31/K-268 junction in Osage County. The project includes removal of the existing railroad bridge over US-75, grading work to widen the slopes adjacent to the bridge, addition of paved shoulders, and installation of a new pedestrian bridge.

At some point during the project, US-75 will be closed for approximately three days to remove the existing railroad bridge and another three days to install the new pedestrian bridge. Advance notice will be provided when the US-75 closures are scheduled to take place. A marked detour will be provided during the US-75 closures. Northbound US-75 traffic will take K-31 west to Osage City, then north on US-56 to Burlingame and then east on US-56 to Scranton, then back to north US-75; southbound US-75 traffic will follow the reverse of this detour. There will be some flagging possible when crews complete paving work on the shoulders, though no work is being performed on mainline US-75 pavement. Drivers should expect some delays and are encouraged to use alternate routes, if possible.

TL Enterprises, Inc. is the primary contractor on this \$887,364 bridge project. This project is funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is late October 2010.

The Kansas Department of Transportation urges all motorists to be alert, obey the warning signs, and "Give 'Em a Brake!" when approaching and driving through the project work zone. For more information on this bridge project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Steve Baalman, Field Engineering Administrator, at (785) 296-2291.

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This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact KDOT Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.