

TRAFFIC ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 26, 2013

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U.S. 24 & Topeka Boulevard Interchange

Beginning at **Noon on Thursday, June 27**, westbound U.S. 24 traffic over the Topeka Boulevard Bridge will be shifted onto the newly constructed shoofly located north of the existing bridge in Topeka. Once the westbound U.S. traffic shift is completed, sometime prior to **4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 27**, eastbound U.S. 24 traffic over the Topeka Boulevard Bridge will be shifted onto the newly constructed shoofly located south of the existing bridge. On **Friday, June 28**, crews will remove the concrete pavement approaches on either side of the existing bridge in preparation for the demolition of the existing bridge.

Both eastbound and westbound U.S. 24 traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction, 24/7 round the clock, through the shoofly detours through late September 2013, weather permitting. There will be a 35 mph posted speed limit and a 14-foot lane width restriction through the project work zone throughout the project duration. No large structures or superloads will be allowed through the project work zone.

Once the traffic switches are completed, westbound U.S. 24 traffic will be allowed to exit to northbound Topeka Boulevard ONLY and eastbound U.S. 24 traffic will be able to exit to southbound Topeka Boulevard ONLY via the shoofly detours.

NOTE: There will be no access from northbound or southbound Topeka Boulevard onto eastbound or westbound U.S. 24. Northbound and southbound Topeka Boulevard traffic will continue to use the marked detour route. Topeka Boulevard traffic will detour via Northwest Menninger Road, North Kansas Avenue and Lyman Road.

Drivers should expect delays during peak commute times, should allow extra travel time for daily commutes, and are advised to use alternate routes

throughout the duration of the project. Updated traffic information for this project can be viewed at: www.ksdot.org/topekametro/laneclose.asp.

Demolition of the existing U.S. 24 Bridge over Topeka Boulevard will take place next **Monday-Wednesday, July 1-3, daily, between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. each day.** Crews will complete demolition work by first placing a dirt bed on Topeka Boulevard under the bridge deck. Then heavy equipment will be brought in to “peck away” (via hydraulic hammer) at the bridge structure. There will be no implosions on this bridge demolition as the bridge will be taken down by heavy equipment.

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.

The scheduled completion date for the entire bridge replacement project is mid-November 2013, weather permitting. *(KDOT Project #24-89 KA 0461-01)*

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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.

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