

Northeast District Office
121 S.W. 21st Street
Topeka, KS 66612-1429



phone: 785-296-3881
fax: 785-296-3720
www.ksdot.org

Deb Miller, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

Traffic Alert

Kansas Department of Transportation Traffic Alert

News Contact: Kimberly Qualls, (785) 640-9340 or kqualls@ksdot.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For Tuesday, September 27 – Mid-December 2011 – Atchison / Atchison County

US-59 / Amelia Earhart Bridge

On **Tuesday, September 27**, a major repair project began on US-59 over the existing Amelia Earhart Bridge in Atchison. The existing Amelia Earhart (AE) Bridge on US-59 in Atchison will be reduced to one lane of traffic across the bridge for deck repair work. Work will take place daily Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with an occasional Saturday.

Drivers will be directed through the work zone via a flagman at each end of the bridge. Advance warning signs will be in place to alert drivers to the lane closure on the bridge. Traffic will be restricted to one 11-foot wide lane. Drivers should expect delays and allow extra time for travel during the lane closure.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Missouri Department of Transportation has REOPENED Route 59 on the Missouri side of the bridge as of **1:00 p.m. today** to all traffic. Both the AE Bridge and Route 59 have been closed to traffic since mid-summer due to flooding from the Missouri River.

Due to lane restrictions on the bridge and the increased traffic that can be expected from the reopening of Route 59 in Missouri, **drivers should EXPECT DELAYS and allow extra time for their commutes.**

Project work on the US-59/Amelia Earhart Bridge is scheduled to be completed in mid-December 2011, weather permitting.

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