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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Draft Recommendation Summary for US-56 Corridor Management Plan Available Online**

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will have a summary of draft recommendations for the US-56 Corridor Management Plan available on Wednesday, January 13, for viewing and for public comments on the study Web site at [www.us56corridorplan.org](http://www.us56corridorplan.org). Once input is gathered on the draft recommendations from the public, stakeholders, partners, and local community officials, the recommendations will then be finalized in a formal report and provided to the study partners.

The draft recommendation summary is part of the 15-month study effort between the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and its partners: Douglas County; Johnson County; Cities of Baldwin City, Edgerton, and Gardner; Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) to produce a US-56 Corridor Management Plan.

The three-part study began with compiling the FOUNDATION OF FACTS which included existing conditions found along the corridor, and then analyzed land use, development, natural resources, the local road and highway network, traffic volumes and patterns, and simulation modeling to FORECAST THE FUTURE. The third step is to FORMULATE A FIT through the integration of land use, transportation,

access management, and community character considerations into a preferred corridor plan. Attendees at the public open houses will be encouraged to give their input on these elements as KDOT and the consultant team work on the final phase of the planning process.

The draft recommendation summary will be presented at two public open houses that KDOT is hosting on February 9 and 11. Study team members will discuss access management, corridor character, and land use recommendations along the US-56 corridor study area at both open houses. The 22-mile US-56 corridor study area spans from US-59 west of Baldwin City in Douglas County to I-35 on the northeast edge of the city of Gardner in Johnson County.

The first public open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9 at the Mildale Farm Equestrian Barn, 35250 West 199th Street in Edgerton. The second public open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 11 at the American Legion Hall, 803 High Street in Baldwin City. Identical exhibits will be available for viewing at both public open houses.

The open house format will allow area residents, businesses, and commuters to review detailed project maps with recommendations for access management and land use, and community character considerations that complement the US-56 corridor's diverse uses. KDOT staff along with consultant team members will be on hand to answer questions and discuss issues.

For more information, visit the study Web site at [www.us56corridorplan.org](http://www.us56corridorplan.org).

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