

Gateway



The I-35/I-435 interchange is part of the Johnson County Gateway project. This view is toward the south with Pflumm Road on the left side.

Design-build team selected: Gateway Interchange Constructors (GIC) was selected to build the \$288 million Johnson County Gateway: I-435/I-35/K-10 Interchange, the state's first major design-build project.

"Combining the skills of designers and contractors at a project's onset allow for positive collaboration, which can result in faster project delivery and more efficient use of materials and resources," said KDOT Project Director Burt Morey.

GIC is a joint venture led by Kansas City, Mo.-based

Clarkson Construction Co. and Kiewit Infrastructure Co. Clarkson and Kiewit worked together on the kcICON design-build project, Missouri Department of Transportation's first design-build project in the Kansas City metro area. Additional team members include local design firms HDR Engineering, Inc., and George Butler Associates, Inc.

Construction is expected to start later this spring and includes funding for design and engineering from the cities of Lenexa and Olathe.

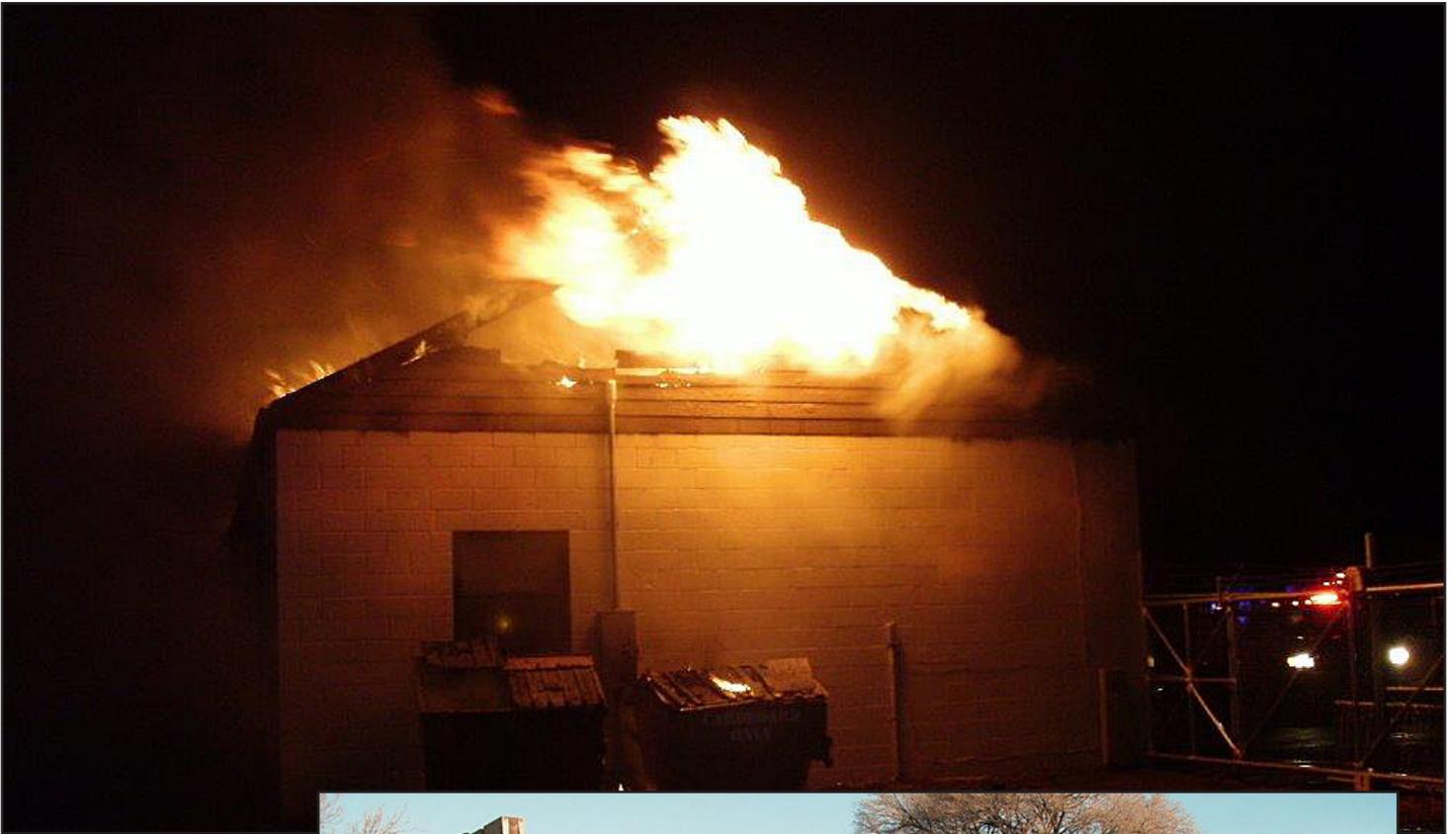


District Three

Three highways in northwest Kansas were closed for several hours on Jan. 16 due to a dust storm caused by high winds. Highways included U.S. 36 from Atwood west to the state line, K-27 from Goodland north to U.S. 36 and I-70 from Burlington, Colo., to Colby. U.S. 83 from U.S. 24 to the K-383/83/23 junction was also closed for a time due to a crash. The last route reopened that night about 10:30 p.m.

At left is a view from the KanDrive camera of a dust storm on I-70 near milepost 22 in western Kansas on Jan. 16.

District Three



Area Superintendent Jerry Glassman captured the Oakley Subarea building engulfed in flames (above), while Equipment Operator Specialist Pat Webber took photos the next day of the destroyed building and equipment as seen at right.



The KDOT Oakley Subarea building was destroyed by fire just before midnight on Jan. 15. The local fire department notified Area Superintendent Jerry Glassman who quickly arrived on the scene.

The building is a total loss as are the three dump trucks, pick-up truck, front end loader and other smaller equipment that was inside the building. Area officials are working to borrow dump trucks from other Districts as well as from the Kansas Turnpike Authority.

On a bright side, the Oakley office complex was already scheduled for a remodernization project scheduled to start later this spring. Now the plans will be altered to include a new office in addition to a new shop.



Kansas Transportation

TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2014

Help us improve cycling and walking along Kansas Byways

If you've ever thought there just are not enough scenic places to ride a bike in Kansas or that some of the existing routes could be improved, KDOT needs your help.

KDOT, the Kansas Byways Program and a consultant team led by GEC Engineers of Topeka and



BLOG ARCHIVE

▼ 2014 (6)

▼ January (6)

[Help us improve cycling and walking along Kansas B...](#)

[Five for Friday with the Gateway Project Director](#)

[Built for the Growth of Kansas](#)

[Wednesday's Words of Wisdom](#)

[Tuesday Trivia](#)

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Above, a screen shot of the new Kansas Transportation blog page.

Check it out: KDOT will be blogging a lot more in 2014. While the agency has done some blogging in the past, it has launched kansastransportation.blogspot.com, which will provide new content almost every day. In addition

to KDOT news, the blog will offer historic photos, timely national topics, interviews with key transportation stakeholders and more. Since the blog's launch on Jan. 13, it has received nearly 1,000 views.

U.S. DOT

Transportation priorities: U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx outlined his top priorities for the Department of Transportation last week, highlighting America's infrastructure deficit and identifying ways for the Department to use innovation and improved planning to stretch transportation dollars as effectively and efficiently as possible. Secretary Foxx also discussed his vision for multimodal transportation providing greater economic "ladders of opportunity" to all Americans and reiterated a commitment to safety.

With the Highway Trust Fund set to run out of money as early as August, Secretary Foxx said the Department will begin posting monthly on its website exactly how much money the Highway Trust Fund has left, and update that number every month until the fund can sustain itself or until it runs out.

In a speech before the Transportation Research Board's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., Secretary Foxx touted the Every Day Counts initiative and other cost-saving best practices as examples of how transportation dollars could be spent more effectively, citing a study from McKinsey & Company that found nations can "obtain the same amount of infrastructure for 40 percent less" just by adopting best practices. He also encouraged representatives from various modes of transportation to work together in a reflection of how travelers use the system, rather than acting as individual silos, proposing the first national transportation plan in more than 70 years.

For more details and links to other information, go to the DOT news release at <http://goo.gl/EUMDbN>.

Trivia!

Cold temperatures

1. What is the coldest temperature on Earth ever recorded and when/where did it happen?
2. What is the average temperature in January in Verkhoyansk, Russia?
3. This town in Minnesota and another town in Colorado both are vying for the title of "Icebox of the Nation."
 - A. It hosts an international pancake festival.
 - B. It appears in the board game Risk.
 - C. It has 100 residents.
 - D. It is a major supplier of emeralds.
5. Of the seven coldest places in the world to live, how many can you name? (The questions above have a couple hints)

Answers below

District Two

Improvements to U.S. 36

outlined: More than 30 local residents and business owners met with KDOT staff on Jan. 15 in Belleville and reviewed plans to convert the four-lane section of U.S. 36 from the Belleville east city limits to the U.S. 36/U.S. 81 interchange to a three-lane facility (with a center left turn only lane).

The purpose for the project is pavement reconstruction including curb, gutter and storm sewer improvements. The open house was an effort to provide community members information on the benefits of a three-lane highway, said Area Engineer Leland Tice, and review with them proposed changes to access points along the route.

KDOT was also interested in hearing the opinions and concerns of those who use this section of U.S. 36 on a regular basis.



Mankato Area Engineer Leland Tice (far right) explains proposed changes to U.S. 36 to Belleville citizens at the Jan. 15 public meeting.

Information gathered will now be taken back to Topeka by Road Design Leader Debbie Tanking, who will consider additional changes to the preliminary design.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir/Madam,

My wife and I live a little more than a mile east of Manhattan on K-18.

On Saturday December 21, we had a substantial snowfall. By the middle of the day on Sunday, we noticed that our mailbox was turned to an odd angle.

Upon closer inspection, it appeared to have been hit not by snow removal equipment, but by the heavy snow coming off as the road was cleared.

The main post was splintered and the crossbeam was cracked, but I was able to put it back in place so that it was usable.

On Monday, I went to work trying to contact someone about the problem. After several calls (you could work on making that easier), I was in touch with Randy at the Wamego office. Everyone I talked to was professional, pleasant, and helpful. On Tuesday, a crew came by and made temporary repairs and Randy followed up with a call. He assured me that when the weather got better and the rush was over, they would come back and finish up.

Your people really did a great job for me, and I wanted to let you know. I am sending a copy of this letter directly to Randy.

Thanks again,
Alan and Donna Specht
Manhattan

To whom it may concern,

In my 4th grade class we are learning about the Midwest. Kansas is part of the Midwest. We are hoping to receive maps from each state. There are twenty-five students in my class. Thanks so very much for your help!

Sincerely,

Walker

Mrs. Babb's Class
Bloomington, IL

TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Minus 128.6 degrees F at the Russian research station in Vostok, Antarctica, on July 21, 1983.
2. Minus 50.4 degrees F
3. International Falls, Minn., and Fraser, Colo.
4. B. It appears in the board game Risk.
5. Verkhoyansk, Russia; Oymyakon, Russia; International Falls, Minn.; Fraser, Colo.; Yakutsk, Russia; Hell, Norway; and Barrow, Alaska.

District Five



The I-235 and 13th Street Interchange project in Wichita was prepped and ready for a bridge deck pour that took place on Jan. 14. Speed reductions on I-235 continue and a detour to West Street is planned over two weekends in late February.

Phone Directories

The phone books are here! The 2014 phone book has a new look with coil-bound pages, bright orange dividers and an expanded Kansas Turnpike Authority listing. The book includes all the updates and office changes that took place up to mid-December when production began in KDOT's Print Shop.

However, the book is thinner because of the change in binding. The Office of Public Affairs long-time supply of blue binders, which were ordered 14 years ago, finally ran out, which would have required a big investment in another supply of them as well as the specially-made dividers. The new format will save money and can be made entirely in-house.

Please let your office/district phone book coordinator know if additional copies are needed.

Quarterly Report

Read all about it: A Savings Tracker detailing the first half-year successes of the KDOT/KTA partnership passed by the 2013 Legislature is included in the most recent KDOT Quarterly Report posted today. Also in this report, Secretary King says transportation projects were good for the Kansas economy in the past year, a team is in place for the state's first major design-build project and construction lettings for this quarter are heavy on preservation projects. The report is posted on the KDOT website under "Publications."

In Memory

Condolences to the family and friends of KDOT retiree Rexford Reilly who died Dec. 8, 2013, in New Hope, Minn. He retired from the Bureau of Design in 1987.

Have an idea for a news brief or picture that could be featured in an upcoming edition of Translines Express?

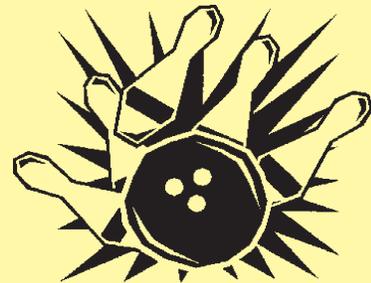
Please e-mail your suggestions to translines@ksdot.org

District Three



At left, workers are shown driving steel piling last week for the bridge foundation on one of two bridge replacement projects located on U.S. 24 in Sheridan County. One of two shoo-fly detours, which takes traffic around both bridge construction sites, is shown above. The construction cost of both bridges is estimated at \$3.85 million. King Construction Co. of Hesston is the prime contractor on both projects, which started this past fall, and are scheduled to be wrapped up by late summer. These projects are managed by James Dietzel's squad with Mark Hoppe's squad designing the bridge projects.

CRAZY BOWL



- **When:** Sunday, Feb. 16, at 1 p.m.
- **Cost:** \$7 per person, free shoe rental
- **Deadline to sign up:** NOON, on Feb. 12

To sign up: **Bring team money (\$28) to Kim Stich in Public Affairs**

- **Who:** Teams consisting of 4 people (KDOT employees, friends and family members are welcome to participate - it is just for fun)
- **Where:** **Gage Bowl** (On Huntoon Street just west of Gage Boulevard in Topeka)

For more details or to sign up, contact Kim Stich at 296-3585 or your Employees' Council representative.