

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT seeks more input on US 50 expansion

Public open houses scheduled

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) invites the US 50 corridor community to share its ideas for improving US 50 in Ford and Gray Counties at the June 19 and 20 public open houses for the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City. During the open house meetings, the public will be able to review project exhibits that show the project area, explain the project development process and schedule, describe project funding, and more.

Representatives from KDOT and the consultant team will be present to answer questions and discuss issues or concerns. Information presented at each open house will be the same. No formal presentations will be given. The open houses will be held from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. each evening at the following locations:

Cimarron	June 19	Gray County Fairgrounds, 4-H Building	17002 W. Highway 50 Cimarron, Kansas 67835
Dodge City	June 20	Dodge City Public Library, Lois Flanagan Room	1001 N. 2nd Avenue Dodge City, Kansas 67801

KDOT is initiating the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City to expand 16 miles of US 50 as a four-lane expressway. The project is included among six Southwest Kansas highway modernization and expansion projects that are funded through T-WORKS, Kansas' 10-year \$8 billion transportation program designed to create jobs, preserve highway infrastructure, and provide multimodal economic development opportunities across the state.

KDOT has worked with communities, including Cimarron, Dodge City, and Gray and Ford Counties to identify this project as a priority for the T-WORKS Program. KDOT is planning to use T-WORKS funds to begin building the improvements to US 50 in Gray and Ford Counties during 2018. Construction activities are anticipated to last up to three years.

A 2005 concept study on US 400 (US 50) was undertaken to evaluate safety, congestion, truck traffic, and access issues through the corridor. The US 400 Location and Design Concept Report (2005) recommended developing a 4-lane expressway across Gray and Ford counties to the north of both Cimarron and Dodge City. While this earlier report will be considered in the current discovery effort, the T-WORKS US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City proposes to expand US 50 (US 400) along or near the existing roadway as feasible.

For more information about the US 50 Expansion Project: Cimarron to Dodge City, visit the project web pages at www.tinyurl.com/7h2vgx5 (US 50 in Gray County) and www.tinyurl.com/82pptvm (US 50 in Ford County) or call the project information line at 888-775-3685. You can also contact KDOT Area Engineer Dale Luedke at dalel@ksdot.org and 620-227-6122 or Kirk Hutchinson, KDOT Southwest District Public Affairs Manager, at 620-276-3241 and kirk.hutchinson@ksdot.org. The project email address is US-50@cimarrontododgecity.com.

Note: The meeting locations are ADA accessible. Persons in need of a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device, large print or Braille material, or other accommodation to participate in this meeting should notify Kirk Hutchinson at (620) 276-3241; cell (620) 260-6397; or kirk.hutchinson@ksdot.org.

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