

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009

KEEPING COMMITMENTS MADE UNDER THE CTP

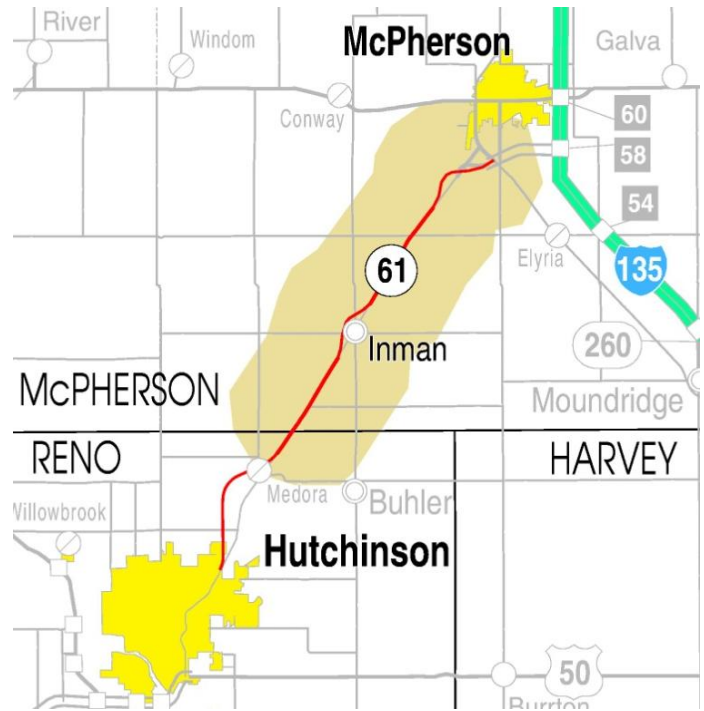
K-61 in McPherson County

Why it Matters?

Completes the Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP)

– The expansion of highway K-61 from Hutchinson to McPherson is the last remaining major CTP project not let to construction. Given the State’s fiscal challenges and uncertainty about future Federal funds, KDOT suspended most construction lettings in December 2008, including K-61 and US-169. After detailed financial assessments and in order to take advantage of good bid prices, KDOT decided in February 2009 to move forward with the remaining CTP projects – except for K-61 section in McPherson due to its cost and impact to cash flow projections. This project was removed from the letting schedule and without ARRA funds, KDOT would not be able complete commitments made under the CTP. The project offers many benefits including:

- **Links Hutchinson to I-135** – Hutchinson is the largest city in Kansas not served by an Interstate, and K-61 is a direct link to I-135.
- **Completes the K-61 Corridor** – The corridor was divided into three projects. The first in Reno County was let to construction in February 2009.
- **Investments Already Made** – More than \$60 million has been committed to this corridor in construction and preliminary engineering costs.
- **Serves Freight Traffic** – Approximately 300,000 trucks, hauling primarily agricultural products, travel this corridor each year.



Even though the State committed to improving this corridor 10 years ago, KDOT was unable to uphold that commitment and the project had been removed from the letting schedule. Now with ARRA funds, this project and commitments made under the CTP can be completed.

Notable Project Facts

- Local funding is important Reno and McPherson Counties and the cities of Inman, McPherson and Hutchinson jointly applied for the project and volunteered to contribute \$275,000 toward the cost and to take over 17 miles of K 14 in Reno County and 4.6 miles of state connector highways in McPherson County.
- The project had a thorough public involvement process. Input from the sponsors and the public had a significant impact on location and design decisions.

Solid Investment.

The project will bring quick returns to the economy and create lasting value due to infrastructure improvements.

- **Creates/Sustains Jobs Now** – It’s estimated the project will support more than 2,900 jobs during construction.
- **Stimulates the Economy** – It will generate more than \$220 million in annual economic output during construction.
- **Supports Development** – It will improve access to the southwest corner of McPherson to accommodate increased traffic from industrial development in the area. The Inman interchange opens economic development opportunities and at-grade crossings at about two-mile intervals offer development opportunities for those areas.