

K-18 in Riley County

The fifth and final state highway project utilizing ARRA funds was let for bids in March 2010 and awarded to Sema Construction Inc. and Subsidiaries, Centennial, Colo. at a cost of \$64.9 million.

Approximately a two-mile project, it involves four-lane freeway construction and building an interchange at K-114. The project also involves relocation of the Union Pacific Railroad.

The project is divided into three phases, but there is only funding available for the two-mile section of Phase I. Phases II and III will allow for completion of the freeway construction to Manhattan, an overall project length of four miles.

The project is needed to support the significant population and economic growth taking place in the region. The new freeway is designed to connect rapidly growing Fort Riley to the City of Manhattan, site of the new National Bio Agro-defense Facility, and provide a new connection to the Manhattan Regional Airport.

Total cost of the project, which is estimated to support 2,900 jobs, is \$140 million.