Eisenhower State Office Building 700 SW Harrison Topeka, KS 66603



phone: 785-296-3585 fax: 785-296-0287 www.ksdot.org

Mike King, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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News Contact: Barb Blue (785) 291-3818, cell (785) 817-4180; bblue@ksdot.org

Let KDOT traveler information services help with holiday/winter travel plans

The Kansas Department of Transportation would like to remind travelers to use the free traveler information services it provides to prepare for their holiday/winter travels. With weather updates provided every 15 minutes, Kansas 511 can be a resource to help travelers learn about winter driving conditions.

- KanDrive, <u>www.kandrive.org</u>, KDOT's traveler information gateway for Kansas and surrounding states, provides essential information you need to plan your trip.
 KanDrive features include camera images, motion camera views, an interactive 511 map of Kansas roads, road conditions and work zones and links to helpful transportation resources, such as Kansas Turnpike information, Kansas Byways, weather information and metro traffic information. Much of the same information can be accessed by calling 5-1-1 from anywhere in Kansas.
 - Camera snapshots of the roadway are updated every few minutes from closed-circuit cameras installed along I-70 and other highways. A camera tour is provided so travelers can select and see all camera images on a specified highway.
 - Motion camera links are also provided for many cameras along I-70 between Goodland and Auburn Road west of Topeka. These can be accessed by clicking on the camera icon and then clicking on the "motion camera" link (if provided on that camera) beneath the lower right corner of the camera view. Still shots will be updated every two seconds.

- Electronic sign message views show construction, accident and safety messages currently being displayed.
- Metro Traffic Management Center websites (Kansas City and Wichita) -Traffic Management Centers in Kansas City (KC Scout) and Wichita (WICHway), use up-to-the minute information to provide travel speeds and camera views on select routes, posted messages on electronic signs and other helpful information for drivers. KanDrive provides links to KC Scout (www.kcscout.org) and WICHway (wichway.org), the new Wichita metro website. A new link at the top of the 511 Map page, "Metro Traffic Sites" now provides drop down links to metro traffic information for both of these sites.
- RSS feeds and GeoRSS feeds to the 511 map page (http://511.ksdot.org).
 KDOT also encourages travelers to use other free traveler information services to assist them in trip planning or in staying informed as they travel:
- The 511 Mobile site at http://511mm.ksdot.org provides map, camera and electronic message sign views, road conditions, work zone and event information and links to weather. The site is accessible from multiple devices, including iPhones, Droids and Windows mobile devices, Version 6.0 and higher. Any devices not compatible with the new application will be able to access text information only for road conditions and work zones.
- 511 Phone From any phone anytime, travelers may call 5-1-1 from anywhere in Kansas or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S. to get route-specific road conditions, work zone information, including detours and closed roads, and travel-related weather information to plan their trips or for updates as they travel.

Additional content and features will be coming soon, with more information coming when they are available.

It's also important to remember safe winter driving skills such as reducing speed for conditions and allowing extra time to travel. Turn off cruise control. Increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle ahead of you. Accelerate and brake gently to reduce the chance of losing control of your vehicle. Don't follow snow removal equipment too closely.

For everyone's safety, drivers should buckle up, not drink and drive, safely secure children in safety seats and avoid distractions such as talking or texting on their cell phone.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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