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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-35 Traffic Switch Scheduled for New Lone Elm Road Interchange in Johnson County

Weather permitting, on **Wednesday, July 23**, both northbound and southbound I-35 traffic will be switched to the southbound side of I-35 for construction work on the new I-35/Lone Elm Road interchange project in Johnson County. Northbound and southbound traffic on I-35 will be channeled through the project work zone via concrete barriers. Both northbound and southbound I-35 traffic will be reduced to two lanes each direction and each lane will be restricted to an 11-foot width.

Speed limits continue to be reduced through the project work zone and drivers must observe the posted speeds. Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp. The I-35 traffic switch will be in place through mid-December 2008.

The I-35 and Lone Elm Road interchange project, a cooperative project between the Kansas Department of Transportation and the City of Olathe, includes the construction of a new folded, or half diamond, interchange at 159th Street/Lone Elm Road and I-35 in Olathe. Lane closures will occur on both Lone Elm Road and I-35 throughout the duration of the project.

APAC-Kansas, Inc. is the primary contractor on this two-year, \$43 million construction project. The scheduled completion date for the entire interchange project is mid-summer 2010.

The Kansas Department of Transportation urges all motorists to be alert, obey the warning signs, and "Give 'Em a Brake!" when approaching and driving through the project work zone. For questions or additional information, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 296-3881 or Ruben Noguera, Field Engineering Administrator, at (913) 764-4525.

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