

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-435 & I-35 Interchange Bridge/Ramp Repair Project in Johnson County Scheduled to Begin

Weather permitting, on **Monday, July 7**, a repair project will begin on the I-435 and I-35 interchange fly-over bridges/ramps. This bridge/ramp repair project is being coordinated with a resurfacing project on I-35 during the same timeframe to help alleviate overall traffic impacts.

All project work will take place during weekend closures only. Weekend bridge/ramp closures will start at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening and all lanes will be reopened to traffic by 5:00 a.m. on Monday morning.

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the bridge/ramp closures. Marked detours will be provided for all bridge/ramp closures. During the closures, drivers should expect major delays and are advised to use alternate routes, if possible. Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this repair project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

Workers will remove and fill broken pavement sections to smooth the surface and prevent moisture and debris from damaging the pavement. They will replace the expansion joints and then complete an overlay by spreading a thin layer of epoxy over the bridge deck and sprinkle small gravel on top. The process will be repeated to create two layers of the "polymer overlay." This overlay will seal the bridge deck and reduce penetration of de-icing salts that can speed the decay of steel in the deck. The new surface will also increase skid resistance. Once the overlay is complete, workers will then replace the permanent pavement markings on the roadway surface.

Clarkson Construction Company, Inc. is the primary contractor with a total contract cost of \$525,000. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is late summer 2008, weather permitting.

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 more information on this repair project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager at (785) 640-9340, or Ruben Noguera, Field Engineering Administrator, at (913) 764-4525.

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