

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-70 Ramp Closures Scheduled for this Weekend in Wyandotte County

Weather permitting, on **Saturday, August 9**, ramp closures are scheduled at the I-70 and 18th Street interchange in Wyandotte County for pavement repair work. The ramps from westbound I-70 to northbound and southbound 18th Street, and from northbound and southbound 18th Street to westbound I-70 will close **beginning at 6:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 9, and will reopen to all traffic at 10:00 a.m. the same day.** Then the ramps from eastbound I-70 to northbound and southbound 18th Street and from northbound and southbound 18th Street to eastbound I-70 will close **beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 9, and will reopen to all traffic by 6:00 p.m. the same day.**

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the ramp closures. Marked detours will be provided during the ramp closures. Both eastbound and westbound I-70 will have two lanes open at all times throughout the duration of the project. The 18th Street and I-70 interchange ramps will be closed for short durations, 1-2 days at a time, during non-peak/weekend periods for resurfacing work. The speed limit will be reduced to 55 mph throughout the project work zone.

Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this resurfacing project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp. Drivers should expect moderate delays during peak hours and minor delays during non-peak hours. Drivers are advised to use alternate routes, if possible.

These ramp closures are part of the resurfacing project on both eastbound and westbound I-70 from 38th Street to 18th Street in Wyandotte County that began in early August. Resurfacing work will occur on all mainline lanes as well as the 18th Street interchange ramps along this section of I-70. Crews may work daily, Monday through Saturday, both during the day and/or at night.

Crews will first patch broken or damaged pavement areas, then apply a three-inch asphalt overlay over the entire pavement surface. Once the overlay step is complete, workers will then apply a layer of asphalt over special asphalt “glue” that binds the new asphalt overlay to the old pavement. This type of overlay promotes drainage, reducing hydroplaning, wet weather spray, and skidding. New pavement markings will be applied to the entire resurfaced portion of I-70.

O’Donnell and Sons is the primary contractor for this resurfacing project with a total contract cost of \$1,400,000. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is early fall 2008.

KDOT 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 on this resurfacing project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Amy Pope, Bonner Springs Construction Engineer, at (785) 721-2754.

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