

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Repair Work Scheduled for Gardner Road Over I-35 Bridge in Johnson County

Weather permitting, beginning on **Monday, June 16**, a repair project will begin on the Gardner Road Bridge over I-35 in Johnson County. Traffic will be reduced to one lane across the bridge and directed through the project work zone by temporary traffic signals located at both ends of the bridge. The traffic signals will be operational 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the project duration. Crews will work Monday through Friday, during daylight hours.

Crews will replace the existing bridge rails, complete pavement patching, and place a polymer overlay on the bridge deck. Workers will spread 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.” The resurfacing project 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.

For the final weekend of repair work, the bridge will be completely closed to all traffic. This weekend closure is scheduled for August 15 through August 19, weather permitting. The weekend closure is needed for placement of the concrete approach panels and polymer overlay application on the bridge deck.

Advance message boards will alert traffic to the lane closures on the bridge. Traffic will be reduced to one lane across the bridge during the duration of the project. Drivers should expect delays and are advised to use alternate routes, if possible. Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

Comanche Construction, Inc. is the primary contractor on this bridge repair project with a total contract cost of \$384,000. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is late summer 2008.

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 on this bridge 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. ###