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NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shawnee Drive Over I-635 Bridge Repair Project to Begin in Wyandotte County

Weather permitting, on **Tuesday, September 2**, a repair and resurfacing project will begin on the Shawnee Drive Bridge over I-635 in Wyandotte County. Shawnee Drive traffic will be reduced to one lane over the bridge during the duration of the project. Crews will work daily Monday through Friday during daylight hours only, with some occasional Saturday work.

Drivers should expect minor delays and are advised to use alternate routes, if possible. All entrance and exit ramps at I-635 will remain open throughout the duration of the project. Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this bridge repair project can be viewed online at:

www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

Crews will first repair the deck pavement and replace the expansion joints on the bridge, and then 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. Once the overlay is complete, workers will then replace the permanent pavement markings on the bridge deck surface.

Progressive Contractors Inc. is the primary contractor on this bridge repair project with a total contract cost of \$161,000. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is early fall 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 work zones. For more information on this bridge repair project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Jim Wetterberg, Bonner Springs Construction Engineer, at (913) 721-2754.

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