IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bridge work on U.S. 50 over I-135
scheduled to begin July 16

Crews are expected to begin making repairs July 16 to a bridge on westbound U.S. 50 over I-135 in Harvey County.

Traffic will be maintained through the bridge during the first two phases of repair, which involve milling and patching of the deck. No wide loads will be allowed, and the speed limit will be reduced from 65 mph to 35 mph.

The bridge will be closed during the third phase of the project, which is scheduled to begin Aug. 20. The third phase will include remaining deck patching, placement of a concrete overlay and the application of masonry coating to bridge rails as well as removal of a lighting system. The bridge is expected to be closed for 35 consecutive days.

While the bridge is closed, U.S. 50 westbound traffic will be detoured north on U.S. 77 at the U.S. 50 and U.S. 77 junction, west on U.S. 56, south on K-15 and south on I-135 north of Newton. Signs will advise people traveling westbound on U.S. 50 of the detour in advance.

Local traffic only will be able to exit U.S. 50 onto East Old Trail Road.
The primary contractor, Wildcat Construction Co. Inc., has 70 consecutive calendar days to complete the $307,109 project. The bridge is scheduled to be open to unrestricted traffic Sept. 24.

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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 a highway work zone. Persons with questions about this road work or other KDOT projects may call South Central Kansas Public Affairs Manager Deb Gruver at 620-663-3361 or 1-877-550-5368 (toll free).

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