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Survey to start for roundabout at U.S. 59/U.S. 160 junction east of Altamont

Around March 1 the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will begin a field survey for a proposed roundabout at the junction of U.S. 59 and U.S. 160 approximately one mile east of Altamont. The area to be surveyed extends $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile in each direction from the current intersection and is based on the existing highway alignment.

A roundabout is a circular intersection in which traffic travels counterclockwise around a central island. Traffic entering the roundabout must yield to the circulating traffic within it. Roundabouts have been shown to reduce fatal and injury crashes by as much as 75 percent, which can be attributed to slower speeds and a reduced number of conflict points. KDOT has built roundabouts at several locations on the state highway system in southeast Kansas, including U.S. 400/K-66 at Riverton and U.S. 400/K-47 at Fredonia.

KDOT is using federal funds to design the roundabout and obtain necessary right-of-way. At this time there is no funding available to construct the roundabout.

Survey activities include the use of survey instruments on the ground to determine locations of existing features within the survey corridor. It is expected to be completed in four weeks, weather permitting. A member of the survey crew will contact property owners or tenants for permission to enter private property.

Rob Selley, field survey project manager, will be in charge of the survey for KDOT. Persons with questions may contact Priscilla Petersen, KDOT public affairs manager for the Southeast District, 1-877-550-5368.

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For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd FL West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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