FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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I-70 Work in Sherman County
Nearing Completion

A project that began in June of 2011 to rebuild the I-70 lanes in Sherman County is nearing completion.

Travelers may now utilize one lane of travel in the newly constructed eastbound lanes. Yesterday, construction crews permitted one lane of travel in both the east and westbound lanes. This traffic setup will be utilized within 12 miles of the corridor until contractors complete the removal of the temporary centerline striping, followed by the installation of permanent traffic markings – including the center and edge-line striping.

The interchange at Ruleton (Exit 9) is also opened to eastbound traffic.

The project begins at the Colorado/Kansas state line and extends 12 miles east into Kansas.

The maximum width is restricted to 16.75 feet; and the speed limit is reduced to 60 miles-per-hour throughout the 12-mile work zone. Please pay attention to the signs and workers within a construction zone, slow down and “Give ‘Em A Brake!”

Drivers may be diverted to the adjacent lane in the next few weeks, as crews continue to make necessary lane closures during the roadwork.
The scope of the entire project includes removing 12 miles of the old pavement, reworking the base, and placing 11.5 inches of new concrete material along this section of the interstate.

Access to the Visitors' Center near Ruleton has been maintained throughout all phases of this I-70 project. The weigh station at the KS/CO line was temporarily relocated to the Colby eastbound rest-area; but was reinstated to its original location yesterday.

Koss Construction Co., Inc., of Topeka, is in charge of this $48 million project funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature in May of 2010.

The projected date to have all the I-70 lanes open to normal traffic is set for mid-October, weather permitting.

For questions concerning this project, please contact KDOT Area Engineer Eric Oelschlager at (785) 626-3258 or erico@ksdot.org in Atwood; or Kristen Brands, KDOT Northwest Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 877-3315 or kristenb@ksdot.org in Norton.

For up to date road closures and road conditions, please call 511 in Kansas (1-866-511-KDOT (5368) outside the state), or check travel information online at: www.kandrive.org or visit http://511mm.ksdot.org.

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