

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT announces improved traveler information

Kansas Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller announced today improvements to KDOT's traveler information services in advance of the winter/holiday travel season. The announcement was made at an event held in cooperation with the National Weather Service "Kansas Winter Weather Awareness Day."

- An enhanced 511 Mobile application is now available at <http://511mm.ksdot.org>. The free 511 Mobile site now provides map, camera and electronic message sign views, road conditions, work zone and event information and links to weather. All content is provided by six regions across the state and three metropolitan areas (Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita).

The site is accessible from multiple devices, including iPhones, Droids and Windows mobile devices, Version 6.0 and higher. Any devices not compatible with the new application will be able to access text information only for road conditions and work zones.

- The voice recognition technology has been upgraded on the 511 Phone system to improve user accuracy. From any phone anytime, travelers may call 511 from anywhere in Kansas or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S. to get route-specific road conditions, work zone information, including detours and closed roads, and travel-related weather information to plan their trips or for updates as they travel.

- Enhanced camera views were added to KanDrive, www.kandrive.org, the KDOT's traveler information gateway for Kansas and surrounding states. Camera snapshots of the roadway are updated every few minutes from closed-circuit cameras installed along I-70 and other highways in other parts of the state.

In addition to the camera tour, KanDrive provides: an interactive map of Kansas roads, work zones and other events impacting traffic and surface-related road conditions; roadside message sign views; and links to related helpful transportation resources, such as KC Scout, neighboring states' travel information, Kansas Turnpike information, Scenic Byways and more.

- KDOT has also partnered with Trafficland to make live video from our cameras available to the media.

“Safety for travelers is KDOT's top priority and providing traveler information services is certainly one very important way to keep travelers informed so they can make good travel decisions, especially during harsh winter driving conditions,” Miller stated. “While KDOT strives to make travel information available through a variety of services, I want to stress that travelers should not text or talk on cell phones while driving.”

For more information, visit www.kandrive.org/info.asp .

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

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.