

NEWS RELEASE

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Kansas receives national award for partnering on 87th Street Parkway and I-35/U.S. 69 project

A collaborative project to improve 87th Street Parkway and I-35/U.S. 69 in Johnson County has been recognized as the 2007 National Achievement Award State winner by the National Partnership for Highway Quality (NPHQ).

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), the City of Lenexa, the City of Overland Park, Clarkson Construction Co., and the designer, PB Americas, Inc., were honored for their joint partnering effort on the \$66 million project.

“This is an excellent example of partnering and it shows what can happen when the state and local units of government work together on a common goal,” said KDOT Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller.

The announcement was made today in San Diego, by NPHQ, a partnership among federal, state, and roadway industry leaders and officials that promotes highway quality, safety, and service to the highway user.

“The high level of innovation on this project speaks to the agencies’ concern for their communities,” said NPHQ Executive Director Bob Templeton. “KDOT, Lenexa, and Overland Park provided a unified and consistent message to the public that will reap dividends for years to come.”

The project was unique from start to finish. The cities involved contributed \$17.5 million to the cost of the project with the City of Lenexa serving as the lead partner. The design chosen for the interchange, a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI), was one of the first of its kind in Kansas. The SPUI allows for simultaneous traffic movements while reducing stops for turning traffic. The single traffic signal reduces delays, increases capacity, and enhances safety.

The NPHQ awards recognize overall project quality; the partnership between state departments of transportation and private contractors; technical and materials innovations; effectiveness and creativity of public involvement; the teams' effectiveness in meeting or exceeding expected deadlines, costs, and deliverables; responsiveness to environmental needs and opportunities and adherence to quality management.

NPHQ is the only nationally-formed organization dedicated to achieving total commitment to highway quality and customer satisfaction in every state.

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