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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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K-9 to Close for Intersection Reconstruction Work in Marshall County

On **Monday**, **June 18**, K-9 will be closed at the US-77 junction for intersection reconstruction work. This intersection reconstruction work is part of the US-77 Big Blue River bridge replacement project in Marshall County.

Beginning on **Monday**, **June 18 at 4:00 p.m. through early September 2012**, northbound and southbound K-9 will be <u>closed</u> from the city of Frankfort to the US-77 junction to ALL through traffic. Access will be maintained for local traffic only on the closed portion of K-9. A 48-mile marked detour on state highways will be provided. See the map below for the marked detour route.

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the K-9 roadway closure. Drivers must use alternate routes during the roadway closure.

In early August 2011, the bridge replacement project began on US-77 over the Big Blue River located one-half mile east of the city of Blue Rapids in Marshall County. The new bridge and realigned US-77 roadway are being built just east of the existing bridge and highway, along with the portion of K-9 that will be realigned to tie into the new roadway. (See the attached map for the new bridge and roadway alignment.)

The new US-77 bridge will be 40-foot wide, with two 12-foot lanes and 8-foot shoulders, providing more room for today's wider vehicles and it will have shorter bridge railings as well. In addition, project work includes a deceleration lane for northbound

drivers turning east onto K-9 and an acceleration lane for eastbound drivers on K-9 turning north onto US-77.

United Contractors Inc. (Johnston, Iowa) is the primary contractor on this bridge replacement project with a total contract cost of \$7.558 million. The new US-77 bridge is scheduled to open to all traffic in mid-September 2012. The old bridge is scheduled to be demolished in November 2012. Overall project work is scheduled to be completed in late December 2012, weather permitting.

This project is funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature in May 2010. Find out more about this and other T-WORKS projects at: http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWorks/.

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 the project work zone. For questions or additional information on this bridge replacement project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Kevin Palic, Construction Manager, at (785) 336-2183. (KDOT Project # 77-58 KA 0716-01)

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This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact KDOT Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

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<u>DETOUR</u>

US-77 traffic to be Carried Through Construction K-9 traffic to be Detoured on State Routes

