

NEWS RELEASE

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Ribbon-Cutting Marks Completion of 46th Street ARRA Project

Shawnee County and Kansas Department of Transportation officials today officially opened the recently-completed Northwest 46th Street improvement project at a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 46th and Oakley in north Topeka.

The Northwest 46th Street improvement project was needed to address safety concerns and capacity issues along the heavily travelled roadway. Project construction began in March 2010 and included the construction of two multi-lane roundabouts located at the intersections of 46th Street and both Fielding Road and Oakley. In addition, 46th Street was widened to four-lanes from Oakley to Fielding Road and a left turn lane was added at 46th Street and Northwest Button Road.

“One of the things I really like about this project is that not only does it provide short-term economic stimulus, it also will support long-term economic development in this part of the county,” said Kansas Transportation Secretary Deb Miller.

“But as important as the economic benefits are, the biggest benefit of this project is enhanced safety.”

The 46th Street improvement project is the largest local American Recovery and Reinvestment Act project in Kansas and includes multiple roundabouts that are proven to increase intersection safety. This improved access will promote economic development for the Northwest Topeka/Shawnee County region.

Also speaking at the ceremony was Tom Vlach, Shawnee County Public Works Director.

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