

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge Repair Work Closes Westbound I-70 to Southbound 18th Street Ramp in Wyandotte County

Weather permitting, on **Wednesday, May 28**, bridge repair work will close the loop ramp from westbound I-70 to southbound 18th Street as traffic is shifted to the two inside lanes on I-70. This ramp closure is part of the bridge repair work that began in late April on the westbound I-70 bridge over 18th Street Expressway in Wyandotte County. Westbound I-70 will be reduced to two lanes throughout the repair project. The loop ramp from northbound 18th Street to westbound I-70 will remain closed throughout the duration of the project. All other ramps will remain open throughout the project duration.

Westbound I-70 traffic will be directed via signage through the project work zone. The marked detour for the westbound I-70 to southbound 18th Street ramp closure will be via westbound I-70 to 38th Street/Kaw Drive to eastbound I-70 to southbound 18th Street. The marked detour for the northbound 18th Street to westbound I-70 ramp closure will be via westbound K-32 to northbound I-635 to I-70.

Drivers should expect minor delays and are advised to use alternate routes, if possible. Updated daily lane and ramp closure information for this bridge repair project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

Crews will first complete pavement repairs on the bridge deck surface and then will resurface the bridge deck using an overlay of concrete mixed with silica fume, a byproduct of making silicon from quartz. Resurfacing the bridge deck will smooth the pavement and make it more resistant to damage from de-icing salts. Work will take place primarily Monday through Friday during daylight hours and may include some evenings/weekends.

Comanche Construction Inc. is the primary contractor on this bridge repair project with a total contract cost of \$389,400. The scheduled completion date for the entire project mid-summer 2008.

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 more information on this bridge repair project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 296-3881, or Jim Wetterberg, Bonner Springs Construction Engineer, at (913) 721-2754.

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