NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-35 at Lone Elm Road Lane Closures Scheduled in Johnson County, February 24-March 1

Weather permitting, beginning on Tuesday, February 24 at 10:00 p.m., northbound I-35 will be closed from US-56 in Gardner to US-169 in Olathe overnight for bridge girder erection work. Crews will erect girders for the new bridge at the I-35 and Lone Elm Road interchange project in Johnson County. The northbound I-35 closures will begin at 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, and will reopen to all traffic at 5:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 25; and then repeat daily through 5:00 a.m. on Friday, February 27; begin again at 10:00 p.m. on Friday, February 27, reopening to all traffic at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 28; and then begin again at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 28, reopening to all traffic at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 1.

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the lane closures. Marked detours will be provided via US-169 and 175th Street. Drivers should expect major delays and are advised to use alternate routes, if possible. Speed limits continue to be reduced through the project work zone and drivers must observe the posted speeds. Updated daily lane/ramp closure information for this project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

The I-35 and Lone Elm Road interchange project, a cooperative project between the Kansas Department of Transportation and the City of Olathe, includes the construction of a new folded, or half diamond, interchange at 159th Street/Lone Elm Road and I-35 in Olathe. Lane closures will occur on both Lone Elm Road and I-35 throughout the duration of the project.

APAC-Kansas, Inc. is the primary contractor on this two-year, $43 million construction project. The scheduled completion date for the entire interchange project is mid-summer 2010.

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, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340 or Ruben Noguera, Field Engineering Administrator, at (913) 764-4525. ###

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) (TTY).