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For more information, contact:
Gina Myles (816) 622-0322

KC Scout Lights Up New Ramp Meter Signals

LEE’S SUMMIT, Mo. – Ramp Meters, Kansas City Scout’s latest tool to ease congestion along the south I-435 corridor will go into effect on November 24, 2009. Ramp meters, special traffic signals that regulate the rate at which vehicles enter the freeway from the on-ramps have been installed on the south I-435 corridor between Metcalf Avenue and the Three Trails Memorial Crossing (formerly the Grandview Triangle). Testing of the system will occur Thursday evening November 19 from 11 pm to around 2 am Friday morning.

According to Jason Sims, Manager of Kansas City Scout, "The nation’s economic outlook has hit all governmental agencies hard, specifically the Departments of Transportation. Through Scout’s Ramp Metering initiative MoDOT and KDOT are utilizing low cost technology solutions to maximize the flow on the highway system and reduce accidents, with accident reduction being the number one goal.”

The meters are a part of what is called a "smart system" and will only turn on during the peak rush hour periods when traffic conditions or congestion warrants them. With the launch of the meters coming during a holiday work week which usually sees a lighter flow of traffic the system may not activate until traffic patterns return to normal the following week.

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