

NEWS RELEASE

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KDOT, Cities of Lenexa and Overland Park to Dedicate 87th Street Parkway and I-35/U.S. 69 Interchange Project

Lenexa, Kan. – The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and the cities of Lenexa and Overland Park will formally dedicate improvements to the 87th Street Parkway and I-35/U.S. 69 interchange project and recognize those involved in the project at **3 p.m., Monday, August 13, at Lenexa City Hall, 12350 West 87th Street Parkway.**

The ceremony will feature speeches from U.S. Senator Pat Roberts, U.S. Congressman Dennis Moore, Kansas Secretary of Transportation Deb Miller, Lenexa Mayor Mike Boehm, Overland Park Mayor Carl Gerlach, and Johnson County Commission Chair Annabeth Surbaugh.

“I am very pleased to see this project nearing completion,” said Secretary Miller. “This has truly been a partnership effort between the State of Kansas and the cities of Lenexa and Overland Park and shows what can happen when state and local units of government work together toward a common goal.”

The \$50 million bridge reconstruction project was funded to improve east-west traffic flow between Lenexa and Overland Park on 87th Street Parkway, as well as access to and from I-35/U.S. 69. The cornerstone of the project is a Single Point Urban Interchange, or SPUI (pronounced “spoo-ee”), designed to decrease delays and increase capacity and safety. The SPUI is only the second of its kind in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area.

“This project has resulted in dramatic improvements for the thousands of citizens and visitors who travel through this busy interchange each day,” said Mayor Boehm. “In addition to making the corridor safer and more efficient for motorists, great attention was placed on the aesthetics of the bridge to make it a visually appealing gateway to our communities.”

“Collaboration on this project by KDOT, Johnson County, and the cities of Lenexa and Overland Park has been remarkable. Due to this effective partnership, I believe drive time and flow of traffic has improved, which we know is important to our residents in both cities,” Mayor Gerlach said.

After six years of planning, design, and construction, the improvements are nearly complete. Construction of the bridges and roadwork is finished, and all lanes and ramps are open for use. Now crews are wrapping up the final landscaping.

The multi-phased project involved bridge improvements to and reconstruction of the 87th Street corridor for approximately one mile through Overland Park and Lenexa. New bridges were constructed over I-35 and U.S. 69 was rebuilt to improve efficiency and safety. New pedestrian areas were added, offering pedestrians and bicyclists a safer way to cross the busy interchange. The project also involved the reconstruction of streets adjacent to the site, including the realignment of Nieman Road. Other improvements included storm sewers, sidewalks, and street lighting. Artistic features include the signal truss, programmable lighting displays, and landscaping.

The 87th Street Parkway and I-35/U.S. 69 project is a System Enhancement Project partnership between KDOT, Lenexa, and Overland Park. Funding from the Johnson County CARS program and the federal government, through the continued support of U.S. Senators Sam Brownback and Pat Roberts, and U.S. Congressman Dennis Moore, also was instrumental to the success of the project. PB Americas, Inc. led the design effort, supported by a team of local consultants. Clarkson Construction Company served as the primary contractor for this project.

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