

NEWS RELEASE

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News Contact: Kimberly Qualls, (785) 640-9340 or kqualls@ksdot.org
Ruben Noguera, (913) 764-4525 or ruben@ksdot.org

Melrose Drive to Close for US-69 Project Work in Johnson County

Weather permitting, **beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 11**, Melrose Drive will be closed at Lenexa Drive in Johnson County for reconstruction and realignment work associated with the US-69 reconstruction project which is currently underway. Project work includes earthwork, asphalt pavement, storm sewer pipe and inlets, installation of concrete curb and gutter, and pavement markings.

Advance message boards will alert traffic to the road closure. A marked detour will be provided for both drivers and pedestrians wishing to utilize Melrose Drive. Drivers must use alternate routes during the closure. Updated daily lane closure information for this reconstruction pavement project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

The US-69 reconstruction project includes the complete rebuilding of US-69 from north of 103rd Street to I-35 in Johnson County. Project improvements include the rebuilding of Lenexa Drive from 84th Terrace to Farley, and the widening of northbound and southbound US-69 from two lanes to three lanes in each direction, from north of 103rd Street to I-35, as well as improvements to the US-69/95th Street interchange. New designated exit lanes for 75th Street will move traffic off of I-35 sooner and will utilize the existing tunnel that was constructed as part of the 87th Street/I-35 interchange project in Lenexa.

Clarkson Construction Company is the primary contractor on this \$82.3 million reconstruction project. The US-69 reconstruction project is scheduled to be completed in the fall 2011. **The Melrose Drive portion of the US-69 project is scheduled to be completed and reopened to all traffic by mid-March 2010.**

The US-69 reconstruction project is a cooperative effort, funded in part by the Kansas Department of Transportation, using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009 funds, and the City of Overland Park.

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

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This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact KDOT Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.