

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Traffic Updates Set for K-7 & 55th Street/Johnson Drive Interchange Project

With the spring construction season gearing up, beginning on **Monday, April 4**, weather permitting, new traffic changes are scheduled to take place on the K-7 and 55th Street/Johnson Drive interchange project in Johnson County. The traffic changes that are scheduled to occur are as follows:

- Northbound and southbound K-7 traffic will be reduced to one lane in each direction and placed on the new northbound lanes over the new interchange bridges, so crews can complete construction work on the new southbound lanes. **This closure will be in place through late fall 2011, weather permitting.**
- Access to/from the east on Clear Creek Parkway will be closed for construction work on the new bridge that will span over K-7 at Clear Creek Parkway. The east leg of Clear Creek Parkway will not reopen to direct access to K-7; instead this east leg will travel over the new Clear Parkway Creek Bridge when finished.

Detour: Traffic wishing to access southbound K-7 will detour south on Silverheel Street to Shawnee Mission Parkway then west on Shawnee Mission Parkway back to southbound or northbound K-7. Drivers on the east side of K-7 can also use the existing marked detour provided via Woodsonia Drive to Silverheel Street to 47th Street (blue detour route).

- Access from northbound (to remain closed) and southbound K-7 to 55th Street and from 55th Street to northbound (to remain closed) and southbound K-7 will be closed so crews can complete construction work on the new southbound lanes. (See below for reopening date.)

Detour: Traffic wishing to access 55th Street from northbound and southbound K-7 or vice versa will need to use the existing marked detour located at 47th Street to Old K-7 (red detour route) or from Clear Creek Parkway to Hedge Lane Terrace (green detour route).

Approximately eight weeks later, **in early to mid-June 2011**, the following traffic changes are then scheduled to occur (weather permitting):

- Access will be reopened to all traffic from northbound K-7 to 55th Street, 55th Street to northbound K-7 (both movements via the roundabout), 55th Street to southbound K-7, Johnson Drive to southbound K-7, and thru traffic between Johnson Drive and 55th Street (also via the roundabout).

- Access will be closed from northbound K-7 to the west at Clear Creek Parkway and from the west on Clear Creek Parkway to northbound K-7 for construction work on the new bridge that will span over K-7 at Clear Creek Parkway. The west leg of Clear Creek Parkway will not reopen to direct access to K-7; instead traffic from the west will travel over the new Clear Parkway Creek Bridge when finished.

Then approximately two weeks later **in late June/early July 2011**, the following traffic changes will occur (weather permitting):

- Access will be reopened to all traffic from southbound K-7 to both 55th Street and Johnson Drive making the intersection fully operational for all traffic movements.
- Access will be closed from southbound K-7 to the west at Clear Creek Parkway and from the west on Clear Creek Parkway to southbound K-7 will be closed for construction work on the new bridge that will span over K-7 at Clear Creek Parkway. The west leg of Clear Creek Parkway will not reopen to direct access to K-7; instead traffic from the west will travel over the new Clear Parkway Creek Bridge when finished.

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the road closures. Marked detours will be provided as stated above. Updated traffic information for this project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp. Project detour route map can be viewed online at: http://www.ksdot.org/kcMetro/pdf/2011-03DetourMap_FINAL.pdf.

The interchange project includes construction of a roundabout to merge the K-7 on- and off-ramps with 55th Street/Johnson Drive and a second roundabout will be constructed west of K-7 at the intersection of Hedge Lane Terrace and 55th Street, which are now completed. Also included with the project are the construction of a side-road overpass at Clear Creek Parkway and K-7 and the already completed construction of Hedge Lane Terrace from 55th Street south to Clear Creek Parkway. When the interchange project is completed, 55th Street/Johnson Drive will run under K-7.

Miles Excavating, Inc. (Basehor, KS) is the primary contractor on the interchange project with a total contract cost of \$21.4 million. The K-7 & 55th Street/Johnson Drive interchange project is a cooperative effort, funded in part by the Kansas Department of Transportation and the City of Shawnee. The entire K-7 & 55th Street/Johnson Drive interchange project is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2011.

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 project information, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Amy Pope, Bonner Springs Construction Engineer, at (913) 721-2754. ###



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.