

## **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **69Express Feb. 28 public open house will display project construction plans and design concepts**

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), with the Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) and the City of Overland Park, will provide a 69Express project construction and design update at a Tuesday, Feb. 28 public open house. The event will be held from 5-7 p.m. at the **Hilltop Conference Center, 7710 W. 143<sup>rd</sup> Street, Overland Park, KS 66223.**

No formal presentation is planned. Members of the public may stop by at any time during the event to get an update on the 69Express KDOT project, which includes expansion of northbound and southbound U.S. 69, from 103<sup>rd</sup> Street to 151<sup>st</sup> Street, and improvements at the U.S. 69/167<sup>th</sup> Street interchange.

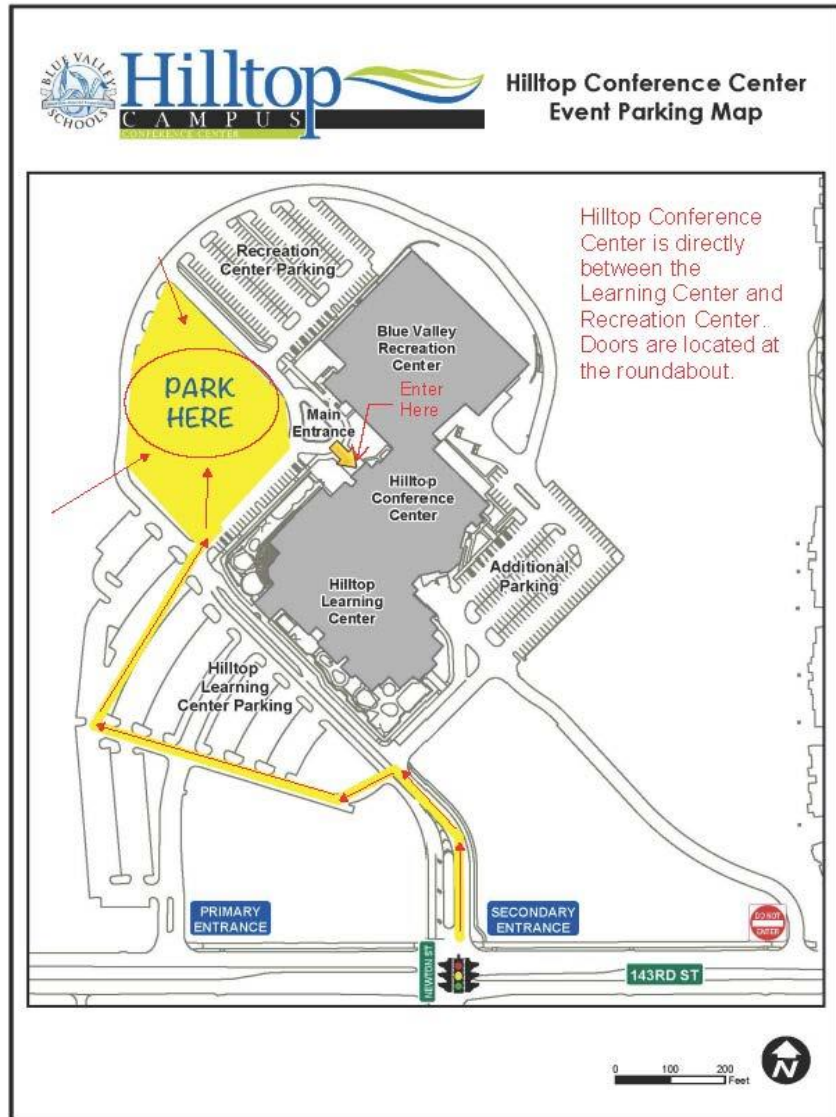
Displays will highlight the following project components: roadway and interchange designs, construction phasing plans, noise wall installations and toll lane operation. At the open house, the project and design-build teams will be on site to listen to feedback and answer questions.

For those who are unable to attend in person, all information available at the event will be posted afterward on the project website, [www.69express.org](http://www.69express.org). For additional information, updates are available regularly on the webpage's Featured News link or by following the project [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages, subscribing to the [project newsletter](#) or [by signing up for text alerts](#).

The 69Express project examined how best to address growing safety, travel time reliability and congestion issues in the U.S. 69 corridor, which stretches from 103<sup>rd</sup> Street to 179<sup>th</sup> Street in Overland Park. Crash rates in the corridor are 53% above the statewide average. Existing pavement and bridges are about 50 years old and overdue for replacement.

Meanwhile, congestion along the corridor is growing; peak travel times are expected to triple over the next few years. Safety and congestion improvements will include building a new express lane in each direction adjacent to the existing general-purpose lanes. Pre-construction work, including utility moves, began in mid-January. Construction will begin in the spring, and the project's express lanes are scheduled to open at the end of 2025 with remaining construction wrapping up in 2026.

*Meeting location map is shown below.*



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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the KDOT Division of Communications, 700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl. West, Topeka, KS 66603-3745 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice) / 7-1-1 (Hearing Impaired).

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