

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge Construction over I-235 Requires Highway Closure and Detour

A number of operations related to two new bridges that link I-235 with West 13th Street will require a weekend closure of I-235 between Central Avenue and Zoo Boulevard starting on Friday, September 12. If the scheduled work is completed as planned, the closure will begin at 7 p.m. on Friday evening and the two-mile section of I-235 should reopen on Sunday, September 14.

A detour will direct interstate traffic to West Street using Central and Zoo Boulevard. All northbound traffic will exit at Central, travel 1½ mile to West Street, travel north then turn left onto Zoo Boulevard and return to I-235 via the northbound ramp. Southbound traffic will be directed using the same city streets.

Work scheduled includes removing concrete barrier on the median side of I-235 (both directions), installing six runs of guard rail in the median, sandblasting the bridge rails above I-235 traffic lanes, applying masonry coating to bridge rails, placing two overhead sign trusses, and hanging aesthetic elements on the bridge over interstate traffic lanes.

Two Central Avenue ramps will remain closed after I-235 reopens on Sunday. The southbound I-235 ramp to Central and the Central to northbound I-235 ramp have been closed since August 15.

The Kansas Department of Transportation highway interchange project adds a ramp from eastbound 13th Street east of Ridge Road to southbound I-235 and a ramp from northbound I-235 to westbound 13th Street. The project is expected to reduce

traffic congestion at the I-235 and Zoo Boulevard interchange and will add another route for crossing the Wichita – Valley Center Floodway.

Dondlinger & Sons Construction Co. of Wichita is the lead contractor on the \$23,111,124.58 project. It should be completed by late November.

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