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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Closed portion of 56th Avenue near Hutchinson is reopening

A section of 56th Avenue northwest of Hutchinson is tentatively expected to reopen on March 16 after being closed since October 2021 to allow for construction of the K-14 realignment.

That portion of 56th Avenue extends from the existing junction with K-14/96 east to Yaggy Road.

Construction of the K-14 realignment continues, so ramps leading from the reopened 56th Avenue to the realigned highway will be barricaded until the realigned highway opens. The project is expected to be completed by June 16.

Background: The Kansas Department of Transportation realignment project started in the spring of 2021. This a 15-mile, \$81.7 million realignment of K-14. The work stretches from near Hutchinson, to Nickerson, to Sterling. Bob Bergkamp Construction Co. Inc., of Wichita, is the primary contractor.

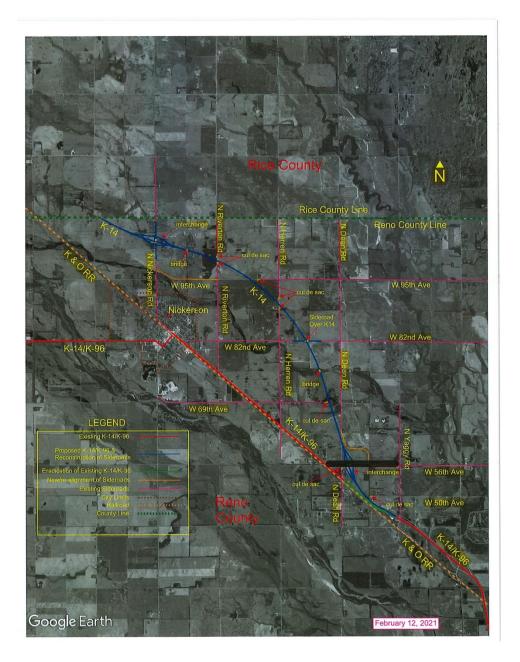
During the work, traffic will continue to use the existing K-14/96 alignment in Reno and Rice counties.

The Reno County portion of the realignment will be from about 4.5 miles southeast of Nickerson northwest to the Reno/Rice county line. The length is a little over 7 miles.

The Rice County portion of the realignment will be from the Reno/Rice county line to just north of the K-96/Avenue T junction. The length is about 8 miles.

The map below shows the portion of 56th Avenue, marked with a thick black line, that will reopen.

For updated information on other KDOT highway projects and road conditions across the state, go to <u>www.kandrive.org</u>.



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