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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT to start work on new section of the Flint Hills Trail

The week of March 4 the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) expects to start work on a Transportation Alternatives project that will add a new section to the Flint Hills Trail State Park in Franklin County. The new 2.3-mile section, located west of Ottawa, extends west from Louisiana Terrace to Iowa Road.

Project activity includes constructing the 10-foot-wide multi-use trail and a pedestrian bridge over the BNSF Railway and improving three existing bridges. The 3.4-mile signed county road detour will be deactivated when work on the new section is finished.

The Transportation Alternatives Program covers on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities, infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility, and Safe Routes to School sidewalk improvements. Upon completion of the Franklin County project, the Flint Hills Trail will have 93 miles of continuous traversable trail for bicyclists and pedestrians from Osawatomie west to Council Grove.

KDOT awarded the construction contract of \$4.9 million to Dondlinger & Sons Construction Co., Inc., of Wichita. Persons with questions may contact Construction Manager Ian Stringham at (785) 433-6116 or Public Affairs Manager Priscilla Petersen at (620) 902-6433.

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