

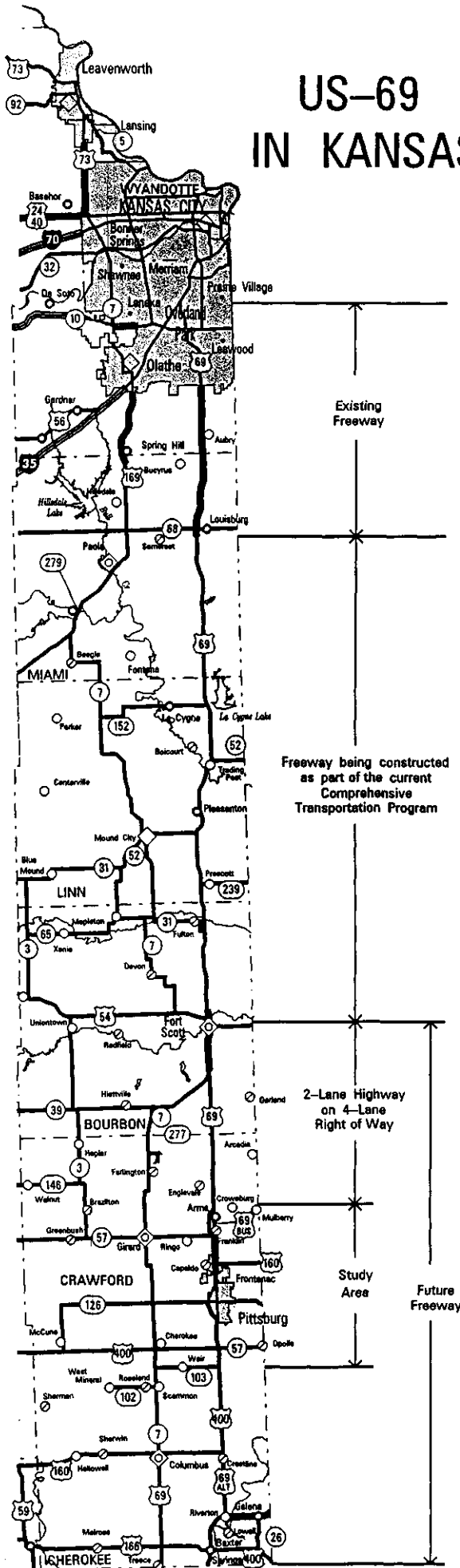
**Displays Used at the  
Public Involvement Open House  
For US-69 Study, K-7290-01  
Pittsburg, KS  
August 17, 1999**

Fleming ✓

For  
✓

K.d.

# US-69 IN KANSAS



Map Prepared  
August 11, 1999

# The Study of US-69

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What can be done to help  
US-69 in Crawford County  
safely and efficiently handle  
traffic in the 21st century?



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# Goal of the Study

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- Develop a feasible strategy for improving US-69
  - That addresses the long-term needs of interstate travelers and the varied interests in the region
  - Is supported by KDOT, the public, and agencies with concerns in the area



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# What Prompted the Study?

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- Heavy traffic and congestion along the route  
(over 10,000 vehicles per day and expected to increase)
- Numerous intersections along the current route
- Vigorous development along the route
- Desire for US-69 to be a freeway within the state



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# A Brief History

Here's a brief look at what's happened so far

**August 1999** Study of underground mine impacts continues. If new corridor locations are needed, more environmental reviews will be conducted.

Underground mines identified that might alter preliminary corridor locations

**July 1999**

Known environmental constraints identified and reviewed

**January 1999**

Consultant selected to conduct study

**November 1998**

Current comprehensive study approved

**August 1998**

Limited study indicated need for a closer look at current route and possible corridors for a new route. It resulted in decision to make selected spot improvements

**June 1998**

Begin limited study of US-69 area from north of Arma to south of Pittsburg

**June 1997**

Initial review was suggested, due to impacts to homes and businesses and the need to address long-term issues

**April 1997**

Prepare for possible reconstruction of US-69 along current route from north of Arma to south of Pittsburg

**May 1995**



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# Some of the Options

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KDOT is studying four possible strategies for improving US-69

- ➡ The “No-Build Option” (do nothing, or very little)
- ➡ Upgrade the existing route to a freeway
- ➡ Build a freeway on a new route east of the existing US-69
- ➡ Build a freeway on a new route west of the existing US-69



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# If Nothing is Done\*

What if the highway received  
only routine maintenance?

- ➡ Drivers will experience delays and frustration
  - a. Congestion will get worse
  - b. More traffic signals will have to be installed
- ➡ The number of accidents will probably increase
- ➡ Maintenance costs will rise

\*Sometimes called the “no-build option”



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# Using the Current Route

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Upgrading the current  
route to a freeway

- ➡ Would effectively handle major increases in traffic
- ➡ Effects on homes and businesses
  - a. Approximately 150-170 residents could be displaced
  - b. Approximately 40-60 businesses could be displaced
- ➡ Access to homes and businesses would change
- ➡ Would accommodate long-term issues



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# Using a New Route

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Building a freeway on a new route  
east or west of the cities served

- ➡ Would effectively handle major increases in traffic
- ➡ Effects on homes and businesses depends on route
  - a. Approximately 10-30 residents could be displaced
  - b. Farms or other commercial properties would be affected
- ➡ Access to homes and other properties could change
- ➡ Would accommodate long-term issues



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# What is a Freeway?

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- ➔ Multi-lane highway with a median
- ➔ Access is by interchanges spaced well apart from each other
- ➔ Crossroads pass over or under the freeway (grade separations)
- ➔ Effective for heavy, high-speed traffic
- ➔ Interchanges reduce accident risk



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Access: A place to enter or exit the highway

# A Look at the Future

Here's what the  
future might hold

*There are no funds allocated at this time to design or build any improvements  
unless the project is selected under the System Enhancement Program*

- 1 Continue to gather and analyze data,  
develop and study strategies
- 2 Finish the study sometime in the year 2000
- 3 Select a preferred strategy to improve US-69
- 4 Advise local officials and the public of the selection



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