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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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A current look at the existing U.S. 77 Swede Creek Bridge.

U.S. 77 Swede Creek Bridge Replacement Project Begins in Marshall County

In **late March**, a replacement project began on the U.S. 77 Bridge over Swede Creek located less than a mile north of the Riley County line in Marshall County. Project work includes replacement of the existing 40-foot by 25-foot reinforced concrete arch span bridge with a new 48-foot by 64-foot by 48-foot reinforced concrete haunched slab

bridge. Work will take place during daylight hours, Monday through Friday, with some occasional Saturday work.

Beginning on **Monday**, **March 30**, northbound and southbound U.S. 77 over Swede Creek bridge was reduced to one lane over the bridge for both directions throughout the project duration. Traffic will be directed across the bridge via concrete barrier and temporary traffic signals located on either end of the bridge. There will be a 15-foot lane width restriction (from guardrail to concrete barrier) through the work zone throughout the project duration. Dogwood Lane will be completely closed to through traffic on both sides of U.S. 77 throughout the project duration.

This bridge replacement project will be constructed in three phases. Phase one includes the addition of a 5-foot shoulder to the southbound lane of U.S. 77. Phase two includes the removal and construction of the northbound half of the bridge. Phase three includes the removal and construction of the southbound half of the bridge.

The Kansas Department of Transportation urges all motorists to be alert, obey the warning signs, and "Give 'Em a Brake!" when approaching and driving through the project work zone.

L & M Contractors (Great Bend, KS) is the primary contractor on this bridge replacement project with a total contract cost of \$1.970 million. **The scheduled** completion date for the bridge replacement project is late November 2015, weather permitting.

This project is funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature in May 2010. Find out more about this and other T-WORKS projects at: http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWorks/.

For more information on this bridge replacement project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Jerry Haug, Wamego Construction Engineer, at (785) 456-2353. (KDOT Project #77-58 KA-2102-01)

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