

NEWS RELEASE

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29th Street & Fairlawn Road Improvement Project Resumes Work After Winter Shutdown

On **Monday, March 29**, major construction work on the 29th Street and Fairlawn Road intersection improvement project in Topeka will resume. Major work on the project was suspended during the winter shutdown period that ran from November 21, 2009, to March 28, 2010. During the winter months, crews did complete work on signal installation at each end of the new connector road and at the 29th and Fairlawn Road intersection.

Work to begin on Monday, March 29, will include a lane closure on northbound Fairlawn Road as crews complete widening of the roadway between the I-470 ramps. Drivers should expect some delays and are encouraged to use alternate routes, if possible. Please remember that the access roadway located south of I-470 between Fairlawn Road on the east (near Lewis Toyota) and McClure Road on the west (near Marlings Home Furnishings) is not a public street, but is located on private property. Drivers should not use this access roadway as a detour route during construction. Updated traffic information for this intersection improvement project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/topekametro/laneclose.asp.

The sidewalk located along the west side of Fairlawn Road will remain open to pedestrian use throughout spring and summer months, as the east side of Fairlawn Road sidewalk is now closed for reconstruction work.

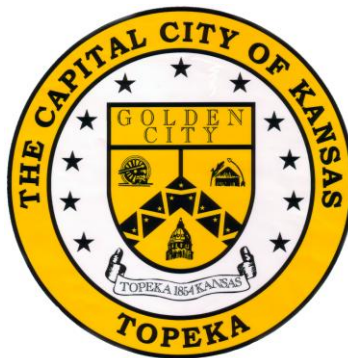
During the 2009 construction season, crews completed the reconstruction of the entrance ramp from 29th Street to I-470, the majority of construction on the Connector Road and the widening of 29th Street. There is still additional pavement work needed on both the Connector Road and the widening of 29th Street which will be completed during the 2010 construction season.

The intersection improvement project includes the reconstruction of the 29th Street and Fairlawn Road intersection along with improvements to adjoining I-470 entrance/exit ramps. Construction improvements for 2009 include complete reconstruction of the 29th Street to westbound I-470 entrance ramp, and construction of a new Connector Road that will carry two new designated lanes of traffic from eastbound 29th Street to southbound Fairlawn Road and from the westbound I-470 exit ramp to 29th Street. Construction improvements for 2010 include the addition of a new dedicated right turn lane on the westbound I-470 to Fairlawn Road exit ramp, widening of Fairlawn Road to the east, complete reconstruction of the intersection, and the installation of additional traffic signals at the I-470 ramps to 29th Street and Fairlawn Road.

Graybeal Construction Co. Inc, is the primary contractor on this \$2.1 million intersection improvement project. The 29th Street and Fairlawn Road intersection improvement project is a cooperative effort, funded in part by the KDOT, the City of Topeka, and Shawnee County. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is early fall 2010.

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. For more information on this intersection improvement project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Steve Baalman, Field Engineering Administrator, at (785) 296-2291.

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This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact KDOT Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kan., 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.