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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT to Host Public Open House for Interim K-4/Oakland Expressway Extension Improvement Plan

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is hosting a public open house for an Interim Extension Improvement Plan on K-4/Oakland Expressway from US-24 in Shawnee County north to Northeast 54th Street in Jefferson County on **Thursday, August 2** in North Topeka. The public is invited to stop by the open house-style meeting anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Seaman High School - Commons Area, 4850 Northwest Rochester Road, Topeka, KS 66617. There will be no formal presentations.

We invite anyone interested in the interim K-4 plan to come learn about the project and view displays, including an overview map of the proposed improvements. KDOT and consultant staff will be on hand to answer questions about the plan. We would like your input and suggestions on the improvement plan and look forward to hearing your feedback.

Existing K-4/Oakland Expressway from US-24 north has many private access points as well as multiple at-grade intersections. Major safety benefits can be realized by constructing a two-lane roadway with access control for an estimated \$25.8 million (2011 estimated dollars) vs. an estimated \$59 million for a four-lane roadway. Proposed improvements include the construction of the west pair of lanes for the future four-lane roadway to align with the existing two lanes located south of US-24 and a new diamond

interchange at Northeast 46th Street to handle the projected traffic volumes. The proposed improvements maximize available right of way, minimize impact to adjacent properties, and fit within the future plans for K-4.

Plan improvements include:

- Addition of a new two-lane roadway from US-24 to Northeast 46th Street
- New ramps from northbound and southbound K-4 to westbound US-24 and from eastbound US-24 to northbound K-4
- Addition of a diamond interchange at Northeast 46th Street

In order to adequately accommodate these project improvements, design plans include the removal of access to/from K-4 at Northeast 31st Street, Northeast 35th Street and Northeast 39th Street. Additional access control between Northeast 46th Street and Northeast 54th Street will be needed for traffic movements associated with the new interchange.

Traffic on K-4 is projected to increase from the current 7,900 vehicles per day (vpd) to 9,300 vpd in 2022, and 12,850 vpd in 2042. After construction of this two-lane facility, it is projected to reduce the traffic volume on old K-4 to 2,450 vpd in 2022 and 3,150 vpd in 2042.

This design change would be an interim practical improvement until funds are available to construct the entire four-lane roadway and remove the existing interchange at old K-4 and US-24. Currently, there is no funding available for final design or construction for these proposed interim improvements.

The project materials presented at the evening meeting will be available online after the public open house at http://www.ksdot.org/topekaMetro/projectstudyNEKS.asp.

The meeting location is ADA accessible. Persons in need of a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device, large print or Braille material, or other accommodation to participate in this meeting should notify Kimberly Qualls, KDOT NE Kansas Public Affairs Manager at (785) 296-3881 at least one week in advance of the meeting. (KDOT Project #4-89 K-7316-03)

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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.

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