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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KDOT to Host First Public Meeting for I-70 Topeka Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is hosting the first public meeting for the I-70 Topeka Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study on Tuesday, October 13 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the City of Topeka Offices located in the Holliday Building at 620 SE Madison in Topeka. At the meeting, participants will learn about the study, review preliminary information regarding the study, and provide feedback on community needs in the study area.

Participants will be able to complete a questionnaire soliciting their insight regarding the study area, pinpoint their specific areas of concern on study maps, and speak with project team members about the study. A short presentation will take place at 4 p.m. and again at 6 p.m.

The I-70 Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study will determine the future of the 3,800-foot long bridge located in downtown Topeka. After more than 50 years, the condition of the Polk-Quincy Viaduct has deteriorated, traffic volumes have increased, highway design criteria have changed and the area around the viaduct has undergone new development and redevelopment.

KDOT began the two-phase study earlier this summer, involving residents, community leaders and stakeholders to assess the needs and possible solutions in the study area. During Phase I, the study team will identify a location and design concept on which to base future design work. The study team will consider feasible alternatives to improve traffic flow and safety and recommend the preferred alignment and improvements for the Polk-Quincy Viaduct. Stakeholders will identify issues and opportunities in the study area, as well as help evaluate possible improvements. Phase I is expected to be completed by mid-2010. During Phase II of the study, engineers will conduct preliminary work to add detail to the location and design concept identified in Phase I.

KDOT recently launched a web site for the study, at <http://I70PolkQuincy.ksdot.org>, to provide residents, stakeholders and anyone interested in the study with current information and ongoing study efforts. The web site offers valuable information about the study, including study background, answers to frequently asked questions, current news, and ways that anyone interested in the study can get involved and stay informed.

The I-70 Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study partners include the KDOT, the City of Topeka and the Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization.

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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.