



Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Public Open House Scheduled for Phase II of US-24 Corridor Management Plan**

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), in partnership with the City of Topeka, the Topeka Metropolitan Planning Organization and Shawnee County, is hosting a public open house for Phase II of the US-24 Corridor Management Plan in Topeka/Shawnee County on **Wednesday, April 20 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Garfield Community Center located at 1600 Northeast Quincy in North Topeka**. Phase II of the US-24 Corridor Management Plan covers an east to west area on US-24 from K-4 to Menoken Road and a north to south area of 25th Street to Lyman Road. Anyone interested in the US-24 Corridor Management Plan, including business owners, local stakeholders, and residents, are invited to drop by the open house anytime between 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. that evening.

At the open house, participants will learn more about Phase II efforts of the plan, review information from the Phase I draft study, and provide input about current transportation needs and future development along the corridor. There will be no formal presentations. KDOT and plan team members will be on-hand to answer questions and discuss the US-24 Corridor Management Plan with participants.

The US-24 Corridor Management Plan is necessary because as Topeka grows, there is great potential for significant development along US-24 in North Topeka. As with any development, a number of transportation challenges could eventually come about, such as safety concerns and traffic congestion. This Plan will help KDOT and the partner agencies to understand the potential nature of future development along US-24 and what transportation improvements might be necessary to accommodate growth along this

corridor, and help US-24 fulfill its dual purpose of being both a major traffic mover and an important commercial/industrial corridor needing reasonable access to adjacent properties.

The Phase II planning process will utilize and build on information that came out of Phase I which was completed in July of 2009. Recommendations included in Phase I will be revisited and Phase II proposed improvements will be vetted through a comprehensive public involvement process. The planning process will provide a coordinated strategy to help create a solid transportation environment that is safe, efficient and supportive of economic activity.

KDOT, in partnership with the City of Topeka, the Topeka Metropolitan Planning Organization and Shawnee County, is conducting Phase II of the US-24 Corridor Management Plan. The partner agencies have selected TranSystems, a Kansas City-based engineering firm, to assist with the \$230,000 Phase II plan development process.

For further information on this plan, please visit the project website at <http://US24corridorplan.ksdot.org>; or contact Kimberly Qualls, KDOT Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager at (785) 640-9340 or Michael Moriarty, KDOT Project Manager at (785) 296-8864.

If you are in need of a sign language interpreter, an assistive listening device, large print or Braille material, or other accommodations to attend this meeting, please notify Kimberly Qualls at (785) 296-3881 at least one week prior to the meeting. Requests may also be addressed to the Kansas Department of Transportation, Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison Street, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, Kansas 66603-3754 or phone (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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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.