

The logo features the text "I-70 TOPEKA" in green, followed by a blue graphic of a viaduct with three pillars and a curved top. Below this, the words "Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study" are written in a larger, bold font, with "Polk-Quincy" in blue and "Viaduct Study" in green.

I-70 TOPEKA
Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Public Open House Set for I-70 Topeka Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) and the City of Topeka are hosting a Public Open House for the I-70 Topeka Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study on Tuesday, May 3. The Open House is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 3 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the City of Topeka Offices, Holliday Conference Room-1st Floor, in the Holliday Building at 620 SE Madison in Topeka.**

At the public open house, participants will learn about the preferred alternative that has been selected based on input from the public, business owners, City Council members and community leaders. In addition, participants will be able to view a traffic simulation model showing the proposed future traffic flow and understand the future design considerations and next steps moving forward for the preferred alternative. There will be no formal presentations, so attendees are invited to drop by anytime between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. that evening.

The I-70 Topeka Polk-Quincy Viaduct study began in 2009, involving residents, community leaders and stakeholders, to assess the needs and possible solutions in the study area. During Phase I, the study team was charged with identifying a location and design concept on which to base future design work. The study team, with the assistance of the Project Advisory Committee (PAC), identified three preferred alternatives to improve traffic flow and safety in Phase I.

After an extensive public involvement process including the public, local stakeholders and community officials, a final preferred alternative was selected out of the original three alternatives that were chosen and presented by the study team and PAC. In Phase II, engineers will conduct preliminary work to add detail to the location and design concept identified during Phase I. The preliminary design of construction plans in Phase II will begin upon completion of

Phase I and is scheduled to be finished in 2013. At this time, there is no funding for construction identified nor has a schedule for construction of the improvements been determined.

The I-70 Polk-Quincy Viaduct Study partners include the KDOT, the City of Topeka and the Metropolitan Topeka Planning Organization. The study team members are working together to determine the future of the 3,800-foot long bridge located in downtown Topeka as well as potential changes to I-70 from the MacVicar Avenue interchange to the Adams Street interchange. 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.

For more information, check out a project-specific website for the study at <http://I70PolkQuincy.ksdot.org>. The website 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. If you require a sign-language interpreter or other communication aids at the meeting, please call Kimberly Qualls, KDOT Public Affairs Manager at (785) 296-3881 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

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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.