

Northeast District Office 121 SW 21<sup>st</sup> Street Topeka, KS 66612

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Public Open House Set for US-56 Bridge Replacement Project in Douglas County

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is hosting a public open house to provide important information for three upcoming US-56 bridge replacements in Douglas County on Thursday, August 5 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin Elementary School Intermediate Center Gym, 100 Bullpup Drive, Baldwin City, KS.

At the open house, anyone interested in the bridge projects can view location maps, construction timelines and traffic impacts, including official detour routes, for the bridge replacements. There will be no formal presentation, so the public is welcome to drop by anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. that evening. KDOT team members will be on-hand to answer questions and discuss the bridge replacement projects.

The bridge projects include the replacement of three bridges located on a 2.55-mile stretch of US-56 west of Baldwin City. The three bridges spanning Tauy Creek outlets were all constructed in the late 1920s and are scheduled for replacement due to age and deterioration. KDOT plans to construct all three bridges within one construction season. In order to complete all three bridges in one construction season, US-56 west of Baldwin City will be closed to through traffic during the project duration. Based on future funding availability, construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in 2013. Next steps for the projects include preliminary design work for the bridge replacements.

For more information on the bridge replacement projects, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340.

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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