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Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Southbound US-75 Bridge Resurfacing Project to Begin in Shawnee County

Weather permitting, on **Friday, July 22 at 7:30 p.m.**, a repair and resurfacing project will begin on the southbound US-75 Westgate Bridge over the Kansas River in Topeka/Shawnee County. The resurfacing project will help improve and preserve the driving surface of the bridge deck. Crews will conduct work, 24/7 round the clock, over several consecutive weekends from 7:30 p.m. on Friday evening through 6:00 a.m. the following Monday morning.

Beginning on **Friday, July 22 at 7:30 p.m.**, southbound US-75 traffic over the Westgate Bridge will be reduced to one lane from approximately one-half-mile south of the US-24 interchange to just before the I-70 interchange ramps. **All lanes and ramps on US-75 will be reopened to all traffic at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, morning, July 25.** Crews will begin work on the right lane, then once completed work on the left lane will begin. The Lower Silver Lake Road entrance ramp to southbound US 75 will be closed during the weekend-long closures as well. No marked detour will be provided. All other adjacent ramps will remain open.

Traffic will be directed through the project work zone via signage and cones. There will be a 12-foot lane width restriction throughout the project work zone during the weekend-long closures. A 55 mph speed limit will be posted throughout the project work zone as well.

During the weekend-long closures, drivers should expect major delays and are encouraged to use alternate routes when possible. Updated daily traffic information for this resurfacing project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/topekametro/laneclose.asp.

Project work on the bridge deck includes: sandblasting project deck, repairing damaged pavement on the deck, placing a multi-layer polymer overlay, followed by new pavement

markings. Workers will spread a thin layer of epoxy resin over the bridge deck then coat it with a thin layer of rock chips and they will complete this process for a total application of two thin layers. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Once the rock chip layers are applied, drivers should be aware that there may be the possibility that some of the small rock chips will still be present on the bridge deck following application. Crews will sweep the bridge deck to remove as much of the loose rock chips as possible.

Wildcat Construction Company is the primary contractor on this resurfacing project with a total contract cost of \$280,848. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is mid-August 2011.

This project is funded by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature in May 2010. Find out more about this and other T-WORKS projects at: <http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWorks/>.

The Kansas Department of Transportation urges all motorists to be alert, obey the warning signs, and “Give ‘Em a Brake!” when approaching and driving through the project work zone. For more information on this resurfacing project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Mary Files, P.E., Construction Manager, at (785) 296-2291. (*KDOT Project # 75-89 KA 1628-0*)

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