



Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Public Open Houses Scheduled for US-56 Corridor Management Plan

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is hosting two open house public meetings on February 9 and 11 to discuss access management, corridor character, and land use alternatives along the US-56 corridor study area. The 22-mile US-56 corridor study area spans from US-59 west of Baldwin City in Douglas County to I-35 on the northeast edge of the city of Gardner in Johnson County.

The first public open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9 at the Mildale Farm Equestrian Barn, 35250 West 199th Street in Edgerton. The second public open house will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 11 at the Baldwin Elementary School-Intermediate Center Commons Area, 100 Bullpup Drive in Baldwin City. Identical exhibits will be available for viewing at both public open houses.

The open house format will allow area residents, businesses, and commuters to review detailed project maps with recommendations for access management and land use, and community character considerations that complement the corridor's diverse uses. KDOT staff along with consultant team members will be on hand to answer questions and discuss issues.

The US-56 Corridor Management Plan is a 15-month study effort between KDOT and its partners: Douglas County; Johnson County; Cities of Baldwin City, Edgerton, and Gardner; Lawrence/Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO); and the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC).

The three-part study began with compiling the FOUNDATION OF FACTS which included existing conditions found along the corridor, and then analyzed land use, development, natural resources, the local road and highway network, traffic volumes and patterns, and simulation modeling to FORECAST THE FUTURE. The third step is to FORMULATE A FIT through the integration of land use, transportation, access management, and community character considerations into the final US-56 Corridor Management Plan. Attendees at the public open houses will be encouraged to give their input on these elements as KDOT and the consultant team works on the final phase of the planning process.

For more information, visit the study Web site at www.us56corridorplan.org. 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 48 hours 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.