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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 15, 2012 News Contact: Kimberly Qualls, (785) 640-9340 or <u>kqualls@ksdot.org</u> Mary Files, (785) 296-3986 or <u>maryf@ksdot.org</u>

Westbound I-470 Over 37th Street Bridge Repair Project to Begin in Shawnee County

On **Saturday**, **June 16 at 7:00 p.m.**, a bridge repair project will begin on the westbound I-470 bridge over 37th Street in Topeka (Shawnee County). Project work includes repair work on the approach slabs to the westbound I-470 bridge over 37th Street. Work will take place during the daylight hours; Monday through Friday with some occasional Saturday work.

Beginning on **Saturday**, **June 16 at 7:00 p.m. for approximately two weeks**, westbound I-470 traffic on the bridge over 37th Street will be reduced to three lanes, 24/7 round the clock. The right lane will be closed the week of June 16-23; the left lane will be closed the week of June 23-30. The third week, July 1-8, the two middle lanes will be closed and I-470 traffic on the bridge over 37th Street will be reduced to two lanes consisting far left and far right lanes. Traffic will be directed through the project work zone via signage and cones. There will be a posted speed limit of 45 mph and a 15-foot lane width restriction will be enforced during the third week closure (July 1-8), through the project work zone.

Advance message boards will alert drivers to the lane closures. Drivers should expect major delays during peak travel times and are encouraged to use alternate routes, if possible. Updated traffic information for this bridge and pavement repair project can be viewed online at: www.ksdot.org/topekametro/laneclose.asp.

<u>NOTE:</u> Repair work on the westbound I-470 bridge over Gage Boulevard will be completed and will reopen to all traffic on Saturday evening, June 16. In addition, pavement repair work on both eastbound and westbound I-470 is included with this I-470 bridge and pavement repair project.

R. A. Knapp Construction Inc. (Kansas City, KS) is the primary contractor on this I-470 bridge and pavement repair project with a total contract cost of \$3.678 million. **The scheduled completion date for the entire bridge and pavement project is late 2012, weather permitting.**

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: <u>http://kdotapp.ksdot.org/TWorks/</u>.

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 bridge and pavement repair project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Mary Files, Construction Manager, at (785) 296-3986. *(KDOT Project #470-89 KA 2640-01)*

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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.

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