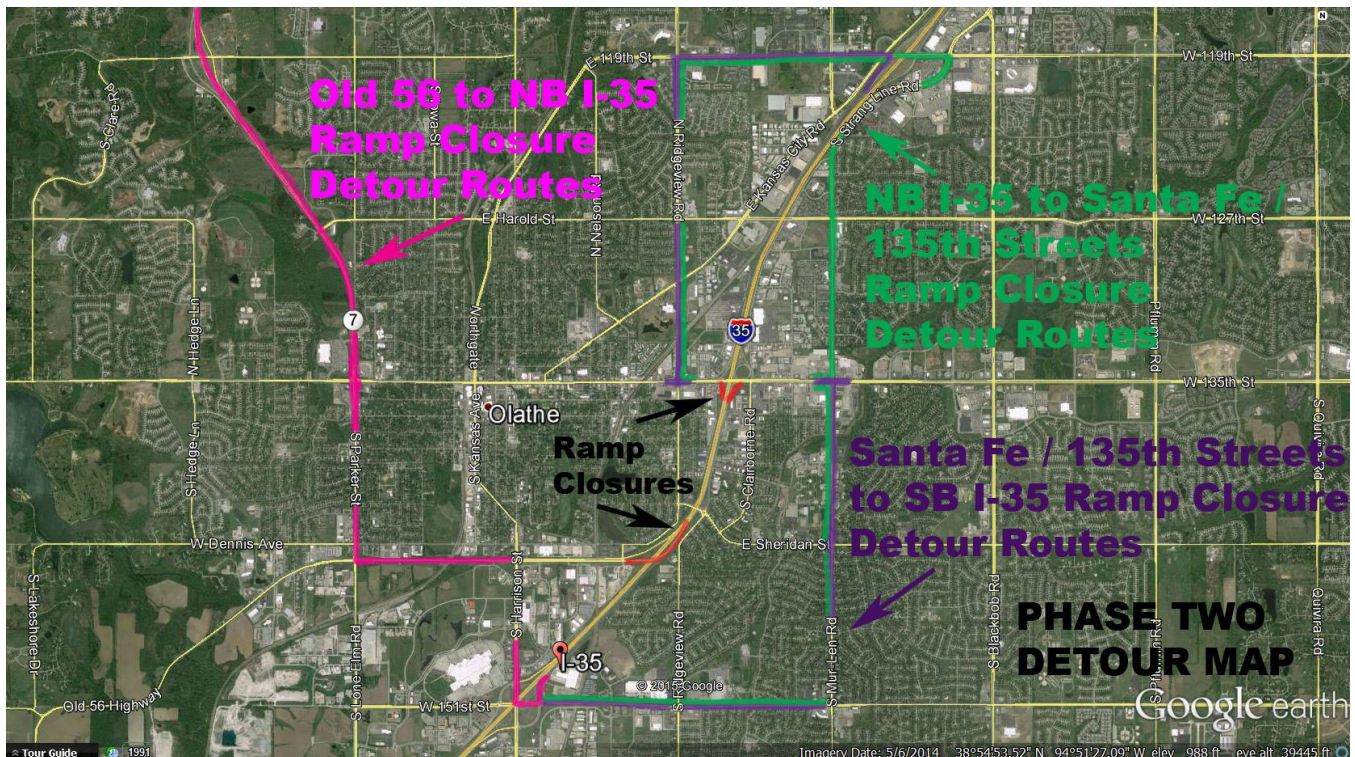


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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I-35 Phase Two Pavement Replacement Project Work to Begin in Johnson County

On **Monday, March 7**, weather permitting, phase two work for a pavement replacement project will begin on a two-mile stretch of northbound and southbound I-35 from just north of 151st Street to just north of Santa Fe Street/135th Street in Olathe (Johnson County). Project work includes replacement of the existing concrete pavement and sub-base in-kind with the same number of lanes and pavement and shoulder width that exists today. Repair work will also be completed on the I-35 bridges over the Burlington Northern Railroad tracks and

Sheridan Street as well as the Old U.S. 56 entrance ramp bridge over I-35. Work will take place during daylight hours (sunrise to sunset), Monday through Friday, with some occasional Saturday work.

During the 2015 construction season, phase one work including all pavement replacement work on the southbound lanes of I-35 was completed. This year's phase two work will include replacement of the pavement on the northbound I-35 lanes. Northbound I-35 will be closed and all traffic will be shifted side by side onto the new southbound I-35 lanes.

The **week of March 7-11**, crews will begin setting traffic control for the project. The **week of March 14-18**, crews will then construct the median crossovers located at either end of the project. The **week of March 21-25**, crews will set temporary concrete barrier and temporary pavement marking. All of this work will take place under daily lane closures throughout the project work zone.

Beginning on **Saturday, March 19**, the Santa Fe Street/135th Street to southbound I-35 entrance ramp will be closed throughout the direction of the project. Then on **Saturday, March 26**, the Old U.S. 56 to northbound I-35 entrance ramp and the northbound I-35 to Santa Fe Street/135th Street exit ramp will be closed throughout the duration of the project. Also, on **Saturday, March 26**, all northbound I-35 traffic will be shifted onto the southbound I-35 lanes for the duration of the project. Both northbound and southbound I-35 will be reduced to two lanes each direction.

Old US-56 to northbound I-35 ramp traffic can detour via northbound K-7 to eastbound K-10 to access I-35 or via southbound K-7 to the 151st Street/I-35 Interchange. Northbound I-35 to Santa Fe/135th Street ramp traffic can detour via eastbound 151st Street to northbound Mur-Len Road to access Santa Fe/135th Street or via westbound 119th Street to southbound Ridgeview Road to access Santa Fe/135th Street or via eastbound 119th Street to southbound Strang Line Road to access Santa Fe/135th Street. See marked detour route map above.

Advance separate notification via a traffic alert will be sent out for each of the projected ramp and lane closure work noted above. Updated daily traffic information for this project and for the entire Kansas City Metro Area can be viewed at: www.ksdot.org/kcmetro/laneclose.asp.

There will be a 55 mph posted speed limit through the work zone throughout the project duration. Drivers should expect delays, must use alternate routes and should allow extra time for their daily commutes.

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.

Ideker, Inc. (St. Joseph, MO) is the primary contractor on this reconstruction project with a total contract cost of \$15.7 million. **Project work is scheduled to be completed in late September 2016, weather permitting.**

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

For more information on this reconstruction project, please contact Kimberly Qualls, Northeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager, at (785) 640-9340, or Joshua Welge, Field Engineering Administrator, at (913) 764-4525. (KDOT Project #35-46 KA-3560-01)

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