

PRESS RELEASE

March 6, 2007 **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

07-062

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US-69 IN OVERLAND PARK TO CLOSE AGAIN FOR CONSTRUCTION THIS WEEKEND

On Friday, March 9, continued removal of the 103rd Street Bridge at US-69 will begin, requiring the closure of US-69. Weather permitting, construction crews are set to start removing the steel girders for the bridge at 10 p.m. Friday, March 9, with removal concluding at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 10. If needed, bridge removal may be continued at 10 p.m., Saturday, March 10, concluding Sunday, March 11 at 10 a.m. During these time periods, US-69 will be closed to all traffic from 95th Street to I-435.

Northbound US-69 traffic will detour to I-435 west and then to I-35 north. US-69 will be closed from south of 95th Street to I-435. Southbound I-35 traffic wanting to continue on south US-69 will be detoured from I-35 to I-435 east to US-69 south. Local traffic will only be able to travel south on US-69 to 95th Street, where they must then exit.

Message boards along major highway routes will alert motorists to the US-69 closing.

Traffic on US-69 has already been reduced to one lane in each direction during non-peak traffic hours in preparation for the bridge deck removal.

The ramp from northbound US-69 to 103^{rd} Street and the ramp from 103^{rd} Street to southbound US-69 will be closed throughout 2007. The ramp from 103^{rd} Street to northbound US-69 is restricted to westbound traffic only. Marked detours will be provided for traffic traveling east- and westbound on 103^{rd} Street.

Focus 435 is a four-year, \$127 million construction project which includes the construction of a new interchange at Antioch Road and I-435. The east ramps for the new interchange opened in December 2006 and the west ramps will open in 2008. The project will also include a new flyover ramp from southbound US-69 to eastbound I-435, additional lanes on I-435 from Metcalf to US-69, and the construction of noise walls along I-435 and US-69. The scheduled completion date for the entire project is June 2009.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., Second Floor West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice) (TTY)