



Public Open House

Thursday, January 26, 2012 at Bonner Springs High School Cafeteria
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Overview

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) held a public open house to discuss the current status of the new K-7 and I-70 Interchange in Bonner Springs with the community at Bonner Springs High School (100 North McDaniel, Bonner Springs, Kansas) on Thursday, January 26, 2012 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose was to discuss the current status of the interchange, emphasizing that KDOT has funded construction through Phases 1-3 and has established preliminary right of way limits for Phases 4-10. Funding is still needed for right of way acquisition, final design and construction for Phases 4-10.

One hundred ninety-six (196) people signed in to attend the meeting; 10 others attended without signing in. An overview of how announcements were provided, what information was presented, and general comments and responses are included below.

Meeting Announcement

- Postcards (email and mailed versions)
- News release
- Newspaper advertisements in the *Bonner Springs Chieftain*, *Basehor Sentinel*, *Shawnee Dispatch*, *Tonganoxie Mirror*, *DeSoto Explorer*, and *Lansing Current On-Line*
- Unified Government and Bonner Springs newsletters
- www.twitter.com/KansasCityKDOT
- www.facebook.com/NEKansasKDOT
- Portable message boards on K-7

Exhibits

The following exhibits were on display for review and comment:

- K-7 Corridor and 5-County Study Update
- Welcome
- Design Process and Schedule
- Contact information for GBA and KDOT
- Renderings of Bridge Aesthetics
- Illustrative videos showing the drive from I-70 eastbound to the 130th Street Exit
- K-7 and I-70 Interchange maps showing:
 - Phases 1-3
 - Ultimate K-7
 - Ultimate I-70



- Illustrative video showing the proposed Diverging Diamond Interchange
- Preliminary Right of Way
- Comments and Refreshments

As participants arrived at the open house, they received a project fact sheet and a comment form that included the following:

- Project Questions
 - What questions, issues, or concerns do you have about the K-7/I-70 Interchange project?
 - What other information should we have shared at tonight's public meeting?
 - Other Comments?
- KDOT Satisfaction Survey Questions
 - How did you hear about this meeting?
 - What is the best way to inform you about meetings and project news?
 - Was the meeting notice timely?
 - Was the meeting time and location convenient?
 - Were your questions answered satisfactorily?
 - Were the handouts and displays easy to understand?
 - If you answered "no" to either question, what can KDOT do to provide easily understandable information or help meet your needs?
 - Did the following individuals (KDOT, Consultants, and Public Officials) listen to your concerns?
 - Would you like a follow-up to answer more questions?
 - Overall rating for the meeting: excellent, good, average, below average, or poor?

General Comments and Responses

- Eight hundred seventy-eight (878) postcards were mailed to project stakeholders from Bonner Springs and the surrounding communities inviting them to attend the open house. Over 200 people attended the meeting; 15 people returned their comment cards and 18 customer satisfaction surveys were returned. Frequently asked questions from the public and KDOT's response to them are included below.
 - **Question:** What is the likelihood that funds will be available for Phase 5? When will Phase 5 commence on K-7 and I-70?
 - **KDOT Response:** Currently there is no funding for right of way acquisition or construction on Phase 5, nor any timeframe determined for that work to occur.



- **Question:** Will Phases 1-4 interrupt the flow of traffic South on K-7 to Kansas Avenue?
 - **KDOT Response:** Phases 2A, 2B and 3 should have little or no impact on traffic flow along K-7. Phase 1 will impact traffic flow directly during approximately one season of construction, during which there will be lane shifts, restricted turning movements and sometimes only one lane of traffic in each direction on K-7. In addition, there will be some impact to access (during construction) at Commercial Drive, but all lanes will be available for turning movements and providing access at Kansas Avenue.

- **Question:** When you direct traffic off K-7 onto a loop, will the businesses directly off K-7 (QT, Car Wash, Christies, Feldman's) survive?
 - **KDOT Response:** Access will be maintained at all times to local businesses during construction. KDOT will continue to discuss and take input on traffic handling and access, during and after construction, from the local businesses along the project corridor. Further, the new interchange at K-7 and 130th Street will not change the way customers access these businesses. The new interchange will decrease the growing delays at the existing intersection. The only changes will be to the driveway locations in order to make it easier to get into and out of the Quik Trip and the Car Wash. With regard to the loops, K-7 traffic that uses them will be entering I-70 and should not affect the businesses at 130th and K-7.