



Kansas Department of Transportation News Release

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KDOT Launches New K-7 & I-70 Interchange Project Web Site

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has launched a new web site, www.k7andi70interchange.org, which will provide information for the new K-7 & I-70 Interchange project in Bonner Springs, Kansas. The purpose of the K-7 & I-70 Interchange project is to provide a preliminary design and phased construction plan for the new interchange. The existing interchange is a major system-to-system interchange with thousands of commuters that travel through the interchange area each day. And, traffic through this interchange area is expected to increase in the future.

Building on the success of the K-7 Corridor Management Plan (2006), and as part of the preliminary design process for this interchange project, KDOT will examine: 1) what growth, development and traffic are happening at the interchange *today*; 2) what may occur in the future (*tomorrow*); and 3) how KDOT can work (*together*) with the community to complete the design and plan for construction of the new interchange.

The K-7 & I-70 Interchange concept and preliminary design propose to change the current interchange configuration from a single interchange to three new interchanges that will work together as one complete system. New interchanges are being designed for: K-7 at 130th Street; K-7 at I-70; and K-7 at Kansas Avenue.

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.

The design of the new interchange will include several phases of improvements. Currently there are two phases planned for the project. Phase 1 involves KDOT design and construction of the west half of the interchange. Construction will begin as soon as funding becomes available. Phase 2 includes construction of the remainder of the interchange (likely in multiple phases) which may not all be completed for several decades after the completion of Phase 1.

The preliminary design of the interchange will respond to the area's increasing capacity and economic development needs, while improving safety. Immediate improvements will involve the construction of a second left turn lane onto southbound K-7 at Canaan Center Drive to reduce bottlenecks and congestion. Construction of the turn lane will be completed during the summer of 2009.

The web site offers detailed and updated interchange project information, including study maps, project timeline, meeting announcements, resource links, survey polls, and more. A unique feature on the web site includes an interactive virtual driving tour which provides online visitors the opportunity to visually navigate through the preliminary interchange design concept.

The study process will include ongoing public engagement. In addition to the project web site, public engagement efforts will include public meetings, community presentations, newsletters, public official's briefings, stakeholder meetings, and ongoing media relations. A public meeting is scheduled for early May and stakeholder meetings will occur throughout April.

For more information, please visit the project web site at:

www.k7andi70interchange.org.

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