

Southern Terminal Improvements

Mile Marker 17



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 13, 2018

Reconstruction of toll plaza begins September 17

WELLINGTON, Kan. – A project to convert the Southern Terminal Toll Plaza located in Sumner county at mile marker 16.5 I-35/KTA to open road tolling will begin with the reconstruction (and temporary closing of) the 30th Street South Bridge over the Turnpike on September 17, 2018.

Construction will involve building new northbound cash lanes east of the existing lanes and new highway speed electronic lanes for both north and southbound traffic. Included in the project is reconstruction of two bridges crossing I-35/KTA – the 30th Street South Bridge (mile marker 17) followed by the 40th Street South Bridge (mile marker 16).

The Turnpike will be using Smart Work Zone technology to provide advanced notice of slowed or stopped traffic to travelers approaching the construction zone. The speed limit approaching the project will be reduced to 55 mph with further reductions, as posted, through the toll plaza itself. Drivers are encouraged to stay alert and avoid distractions within the work zone.

For more information, contact:
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Open road tolling is a method of toll collection which allows electronic customers who have K-TAGs or [other compatible transponders](#) to move through the toll plaza at highway speeds. Travelers who prefer to pay with cash can slow and pull to the right, well out of way of highway traffic. ([View a video simulation here.](#))

The project contract was awarded to Venture Corporation, Great Bend, KS for \$15,265,817.43 in August 2018. This is the third of three mainline toll plazas being converted to open road tolling. Eastern Terminal, just west of Kansas City, was completed in 2017 and construction of the East Topeka toll plaza is scheduled for completion later this fall.

To stay up-to-date on the project and future travel impacts, drivers are urged to check KanDrive at <http://www.kandrive.org>, subscribe to KTA Alerts for roadway incident information at <http://bit.ly/KHeX6g>, follow the Kansas Turnpike on Twitter, and watch for information on KTA's digital message boards. Construction updates on this and other projects are published monthly in KTA's electronic newsletter. Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/1rfcIVx>

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About KTA:

For more than 60 years, the Kansas Turnpike Authority (KTA) maintains 236 miles of user-fee supported roadway from the Oklahoma border to Kansas City. KTA doesn't receive state or federal tax funds. Instead, toll revenue pays for preservation and modernization of the Turnpike system. With the [current long-term plan](#), KTA has outlined 44 projects to enhance safety and the customer experience over the next decade. KTA's mission is to provide safe, economical, high-quality transportation service to its customers.

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