



April 2019 Construction Report

This report is intended to provide motorists with information about active construction projects on the Kansas Turnpike. Each project update is listed below and is prepared near the 20th of the month. Completion dates listed are weather permitting. Photos of the construction projects can be found on Flickr [here](#) and additional information on each project can be found on the KTA website [here](#).

Many of the projects included are part of KTA's 2015 Long Term Needs Study. This study outlines projects for one decade (2016-2025) aimed at preserving, modernizing and enhancing the Turnpike system. More information on the study can be found [here](#).

I encourage travelers to drive with caution in work zones and to check for traffic impacts at [KanDrive](#), subscribe to KTA alerts, follow the Kansas Turnpike on Twitter, and watch for information on the KTA's digital message boards.

~ David Jacobson, P.E., KTA Director of Engineering

Southern Terminal Reconstruction (MM 16-17)

Scheduled completion: December 2019, weather permitting

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Project Coordinator

This project began September 18, 2018 and will convert the Southern Terminal located at mile marker 16.5 I-35/KTA to open road tolling, which allows electronic customers 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. Included in the project is the reconstruction of two bridges crossing I-35/KTA – the 30th Street South Bridge (MM 17) followed by the 40th Street South Bridge (MM 16).

Reconstruction of the 30th Street South Bridge is nearing completion. Final work including guardrail and seeding is expected to wrap up, with the bridge opening to traffic the final week of April. Electrical and mechanical work for the tolling infrastructure continues along with earthwork for the new northbound cash entry lanes and the 40th Street South Bridge embankment.

The Turnpike is 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 is reduced to 55 mph with further reductions, as posted, through the toll plaza itself. A 12-foot width restriction for northbound I-35/KTA traffic is in place. Loads wider than 12-foot should seek alternate routes. Drivers are encouraged to stay alert and avoid distractions within the work zone.

Bridge Raising/Elevation Project – (MM 20-22, MM 59-99)

Scheduled completion: late fall 2020, weather permitting

Project Manager: Luke Coltrane, P.E, Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Project Coordinator

Construction to increase the vertical clearance of ten bridges crossing over I-35/KTA, between mile markers 20-22 (Sumner County) and 59-99 (Butler and Chase Counties) will begin Monday, March 25, 2019. Work at each location will take approximately two months to complete, with construction occurring at two or more locations at the same time. Each bridge will be lifted to provide at least 15'-9" of clearance. Watch this video to see how a bridge is lifted: <http://bit.ly/2ceDe6p>.

The E 30th Ave N Bridge, crossing I-35/KTA at mile marker 21.146 was raised in mid-April and the contractor is working on the bridge abutments and will begin constructing pier protection by the end of the month. Construction also began on the second bridge located at mile marker 20.172 (E 20th Ave. N) on April 12 and is scheduled to be raised by late April, weather permitting.

Travelers can expect single lane traffic in both directions with a 12-foot width restriction.

Bridge Construction south of Wichita (MM 40.02 and 40.45)

Scheduled completion: October 25, 2019

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Project Coordinator

A project to rehabilitate four mainline bridges south of Wichita on I-35/KTA at mile markers 40.024 and 40.0449 began March 11. Construction includes replacing bridge expansion joints along with other minor repairs to the structures.

The contractor is currently reconstructing the abutments on the south bridge to accept the new and larger expansion devices. Shoring is being placed at the north bridge to enable abutment reconstruction at that location. In the coming month, abutment work and some miscellaneous repairs will continue at the south bridge and at the north bridge, excavation and demolition of the abutments will take place.

To accommodate construction on the northbound side, all traffic is using the southbound bridges where there is a single, 12-foot lane of traffic in each direction and speed reduced to 65 mph within the work zone (mile marker 39-41.)

East Kellogg/Wichita – Greenwich to K-96 (MM 51-53)

Scheduled completion: late 2021

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E.

Construction is underway to rebuild East Kellogg/US 54 from the Turnpike's Kellogg toll plaza east to K-96 including new connections between Kellogg (US 54/400) and I-35/KTA. Visit www.E54ict.com to read about project construction not related to KTA travel.

Turnpike travel impacts:

- Traffic exiting the Turnpike at Plaza 50/Kellogg will go east on Kellogg. Those desiring to travel west, will use the U-Turns provided at both Webb and Greenwich Roads.
- Access to the East Kellogg toll plaza is from the south frontage road (west of KTA.) Eastbound mainline Kellogg traffic, that does not exit on the frontage road, is directed to the K-96 toll plaza. Westbound Kellogg traffic continues to use the U-Turn at Rock Road to reach the south frontage road and the toll plaza.
- Traffic exiting at K-96 toll plaza should note that the K-96 ramp to westbound Kellogg is closed for the duration of the project.

Learn more about the project, see the construction schedule, and stay informed of traffic impacts by regularly visiting the web site www.E54ict.com or by following @E54ict on Twitter.

Flint Hills Bridge Construction (MM 94, MM 99.96)

Scheduled completion: December 13, 2019

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E. Mark Roberts, Project Coordinator

A project to mill and overlay bridges in Butler County (mile marker 94) and re-deck and widen bridges in Chase County (mile marker 99.96) on I-35/KTA is underway.

The contractor continues to make repairs and patch the southbound bridge deck at mile marker 94 in preparation for future milling. At mile marker 99.96, crews are constructing new pier supports beneath the northbound bridge. Once this substructure is in place new girders will be set to widen the bridge.

To accommodate construction, traffic is reduced to single 12-foot lanes in both directions on the northbound side (between mile markers 93 and 95) and on the southbound side (between mile marker 99 and 102) with speed reduced to 65 mph. Drivers are urged to stay alert and avoid distractions within the work zone.

Shaw Creek Road Bridge Construction (MM 102.26)

Scheduled completion: November 15, 2019

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Project Coordinator

A project to rehabilitate and increase the vertical clearance of the Shaw Creek Road Bridge crossing over I-35/KTA at mile marker 102.26 (approximately five miles north of the Matfield Green Service Area in Chase County) was awarded in January to Bettis Asphalt & Construction, Inc., Topeka, KS for \$735,607.28. Construction will begin this summer and is scheduled for completion this fall.

Bridge Construction near Emporia (MM 129-130.3)

Scheduled completion: mid-November 2019, weather permitting

Project Manager: Shannon Moore, P.E., Nathan Anstey, Project Coordinator

The second year of a two-year project involving ten I-335/KTA bridges northwest of Emporia resumed March 11. The project includes re-decking and widening mainline bridges (mile marker 130.360), rehabilitating bridges (mile markers 129.18, 129.71, 129.96) and removing a mainline bridge over abandoned railroad tracks (mile marker 130.120). Construction in 2019 will take place on the southbound side since work on the northbound side was completed in 2018.

In the past month, the contractor has set new bridge girders to widen the Allen Creek Bridge and by late April will begin demolition of the existing bridge deck. The bridge over the abandoned railroad tracks has been removed and the contractor is in the process of building fill where the bridge once stood.

To accommodate construction on the southbound side, all traffic is using the northbound bridges where there is a single, 12-foot lane of traffic in each direction and speed reduced to 65 mph within the work zone (mile marker 128-131.)

Re-deck & Increase Vertical Clearance of Bridges – (MM 168.297 & 169.627)

Scheduled completion: late November 2019, weather permitting

Project Manager: Shannon Moore, P.E.

The second year of a two-year project to re-deck and increase the vertical clearance of bridges crossing over I-335/KTA at mile marker 168.297 (SW 93rd Street) and 169.627 (SW 85th Street) resumed with 2019 construction focused on the SW 93rd Street bridge since work was completed on the SW 85th Street bridge in 2018.

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Re-deck & Increase Vertical Clearance of Bridges – (MM 168.297 & 169.627) - Continued

Scheduled completion: late November 2019, weather permitting

Project Manager: Shannon Moore, P.E.

Since the project began, the existing bridge deck has been removed and the existing bridge girders have been raised about 18-inches. In the coming month, the contractor will be removing and rebuilding the abutments at both ends of the bridge.

Travelers should expect construction activity in the median and adjacent to the Turnpike with possible lane closures, construction vehicles entering/exiting traffic and the possibility of slow-moving traffic.

I-70/KTA Drainage, Ramps & Pavement Improvements – (MM 197-214)

Scheduled completion: late fall 2020, weather permitting

Project Manager: Luke Coltrane, P.E, Josh Coffin, Project Coordinator

Construction began April 1 on improvements along I-70/KTA between the Lecompton and Eastern Terminal toll plazas (mile markers 197 - 214) and include: pavement resurfacing (MM 197.9-210.7 and the Lawrence Service Area), drainage improvements at two locations (MM 212.4 and 214.2); and lengthening the acceleration/deceleration ramps connected to the Lecompton and Tonganoxie/Eudora interchanges (MM 197, 212.)

Drainage construction at mile marker 212 has started. The contractor is building temporary lanes, to the north and south of the existing roadway, and will also be doing work in the median to prepare for shifting eastbound I-70/KTA traffic to the westbound side in late May. Installation of new reinforced box culverts at this location is schedule to begin in June.

During the project, construction is scheduled to occur between 9 am and 3:30 pm with the exception of pavement resurfacing, which is planned for overnight hours. Speeds are reduced to 65 mph within work zones. Drivers can expect intermittent lane and shoulder closures near mile marker 212.

Truck Parking and Information Management System

Scheduled completion: first quarter 2019, weather permitting

Project Manager: Rex Fleming, P.E.

This project will utilize technology to provide notice of available truck parking at each of KTA's six service areas and provide alerts of a driver leaving the service area going the wrong way.

Equipment, such as camera poles and sign structures, are being installed at the service areas and along the roadway. Additional equipment is in various stages of delivery and installation.

Maintenance projects, system wide - Ongoing

The KTA maintenance crews work hard to ensure a smooth ride for customers. You may encounter them performing routine maintenance along the 236-mile roadway. These less time-intensive projects normally do not cause traffic delays and are communicated only through social media and roadway signage. However, travelers should drive cautiously in all work zones.

A Look Ahead...

Some other projects KTA will receive bids on in the near future include:

- Drainage Structure Enhancement MM 132.2
- Ramp Improvements at Emporia Service Area, MM 132