



August 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 is underway to reconstruct the Southern Terminal located at mile marker 16.5 I-35/KTA so electronic customers can 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).

Construction of the new northbound cash entry lanes are complete and, along with one northbound electronic lane, opened in early August. Demo of the old toll booths and final storm drainage work is underway in preparation of construction of the southbound electronic lanes. The contractor is constructing the center pier of the 40th Street South Bridge and in the coming month, girders will be placed and bridge decking will begin.

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) began 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 SW Shumway Road Bridge (crossing I-35/KTA at mile marker 66.747) was raised in late July and contractor is finishing pier protection construction and seeding. The SW Tumbleweed Road Bridge (mile marker 59.247) has been raised and abutment and pier protection work are underway. In late August/early September, work will begin on the NW Parallel Street Bridge (mile marker 71.087.) Construction completed earlier include bridges at mile markers 20.172, 21.146, 22.147, 59.997.

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.

Construction of the northbound bridges is complete and work has started on the southbound bridges. The contractor is removing the existing bridge abutments. Over the next month, work will continue to reconstruct the abutments and wing walls for the ends of the bridges.

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 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 and follow @E54ict on Twitter.

Turnpike travel impacts:

- In the coming month, expect northbound and southbound lanes closures on I-35/KTA at mile marker 52 as the overhead 127th Street E. Bridge is demolished.
- In early September, the new ramp connecting the eastbound Kellogg frontage road to southbound I-35/KTA is anticipated to open.
- 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 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.

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.

A new concrete overlay has been placed on the southbound bridge at mile marker 94 and over the next several weeks, guard rail will be installed and the bridge will be tied in to the existing asphalt. Concrete is anticipated to be placed on the bridge at mile marker 99.96 by the end of August followed by construction of the bridge rail and earthwork in the coming month.

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) began in mid-June and is scheduled for completion this fall.

Work on the bridge ends are complete while patching of the deck continues. The contractor will soon begin constructing new pier protection underneath the bridge along I-35/KTA in the coming weeks.

Travelers can expect single lane traffic in both directions with a 12-foot width restriction and speed reduced to 65 mph through the construction zone.

Bridge, Drainage, Paving Construction (locations between MM 112.3-132.2)

Scheduled completion: Summer 2020

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

A two-year project for expansion joints on northbound and southbound bridges (miles markers 124.68, 125.22), ramp and parking improvements at the Emporia service area (mile marker 132), drainage improvements (mile marker 132.2) and pavement mill and inlay (mile markers 112.3-133.2) will begin August 1, 2019 and is scheduled for completion summer 2020.

Work will begin with the construction of median crossovers south of Emporia. When completed, toward the later part of August, all traffic will use the northbound bridge with single lanes in both directions, speeds of 65 mph and 12-ft width restriction. This will accommodate expansion joint work on the Cottonwood River and Cottonwood Floodway bridges.

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 is underway. 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 occur on the southbound side as northbound work was completed in 2018.

Bridge Construction near Emporia (MM 129-130.3) - continued

Scheduled completion: mid-November 2019, weather permitting

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

Handrails construction is complete on the Allen Creek Bridge (mile marker 130.36) and the contractor is working on the inside barrier wall. Soon asphalt will be placed on all bridge approaches and guardrail installed. Four of the five bridges – mile markers 129.18, 129.96, 129.71 and 130.120 – are substantially complete.

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.

Work continues on grading the side slopes and approach of the existing roadway. 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 continues on the eastbound side of I-70/KTA. New drainage structures have been installed at mile marker 212 and 214. The contractor is backfilling the box at mile marker 214 in preparation of placing asphalt in late August. Construction on the eastbound side is expected to be complete in early September with traffic being switch to accommodate work on the westbound side. Night work is underway to patch and then resurface the roadway (between Lecompton and Tonganoxie/Eudora interchanges.) Resurfacing is also occurring at the Lawrence service area during daytime hours.

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. Near mile marker 212, all traffic will use the westbound lanes where there are double, 12-foot lanes of traffic in each direction.

Truck Parking and Information Management System

Scheduled completion: third 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 cameras, poles and sign structures, have been installed along the roadway. The technology team is finalizing connectivity and communication software and then testing will occur.

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.