



March 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).

Concrete on the 30th Street South Bridge has been placed and the contractor is beginning work on the bridge rails and approach embankment. Drainage structure improvements and work to extend utilities to the new cash lanes is winding down. The 40th Street South Bridge closed earlier this month and demolition of the existing bridge deck has begun. In the coming month, work will begin on the storm sewer under the existing payment and some earthwork for the new cash entry lanes and the 40th Street S. bridge will occur.

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>

Work will begin with the bridge located at mile marker 21.146 I-35/KTA (E 30th Ave N.) 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 40.02 and 40.05 began March 11. Construction includes replacing bridge expansion joints along with other minor repairs to the structures.

Construction of median crossover lanes on the north and south end of the project is underway. Once completed, traffic will be reduced to a single lane in each direction on the southbound bridges to accommodate work on the northbound side and drivers will experience single lane traffic, 12-foot width restriction and 65 mph speed reduction 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.

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Flint Hills Bridge Construction (MM 94, MM 99.96) - Continued

Scheduled completion: December 13, 2019

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

Traffic was recently reduced to single 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) to accommodate construction. The contractor has started concrete patching and repair on the deck of the bridge located at mile marker 94 and will be working under the bridge at mile marker 99.96 to set columns and perform other foundation work necessary to widen the bridge.

In addition to the single lane traffic, a 12-foot width restriction and 65 mph speed reduction is in place. Driver 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.

On March 20, weather permitting, traffic will begin using median crossovers, on the north and south ends of the project, to travel in single lanes in both direction on the northbound bridges. Once traffic is switched, construction will focus on the demolition of the Allen Creek Bridge (mile marker 130.360) in preparation of reconstruction and widening of the bridge.

In addition to single lane traffic, drivers will experience a 12-foot width restriction and a 65-mph speed reduction 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.

On March 11th, SW 93rd Street closed to traffic to accommodate its reconstruction in 2019. Over the next several weeks, the contractor will be working to remove the existing bridge deck.

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.

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:

- Pavement Resurfacing MM 197-210.7
- Drainage Structure Enhancements MM 212.1 and 214.2
- Ramp Improvements at Lecompton Interchange, MM 197
- Ramp Improvements at Tonganoxie Interchange, MM 212
- Pavement Resurfacing MM 112-133
- Drainage Structure Enhancement MM 132.2
- Ramp Improvements at Emporia Service Area, MM 132