



## November 2018 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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

### **Bridge Construction (MM 0.6)**

*Scheduled completion: November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Engineering Tech

A project to construct new northbound and southbound bridges and remove an existing drainage structure at mile marker 0.6 on I-35/KTA, near the Oklahoma border, began Friday, March 2, 2018. The project is substantially complete and traffic was normalized in mid-November. In the coming weeks, the contractor will be doing general cleanup and seeding.

### **Drainage Improvements (MM 4.4 and 6.2)**

*Scheduled completion: November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Engineering Tech

A project for reinforced concrete box drainage improvements on I-35/KTA at mile markers 4.4 and 6.2, including ramp improvements at the US-166, South Haven, interchange began on April 23, 2018.

Traffic was moved to the right lanes as drainage work is occurring in the center portion of the roadway. When the box construction is complete it will be backfilled and paving will follow in preparation of the road opening.

Drivers can expect lane closures between mile markers 3 and 7 on I-35/KTA, with single 12-foot lanes of traffic in each direction. The new ramp extensions south of the interchange are now open to traffic. Speeds are reduced to 60 mph throughout the construction zone.

## **Southern Terminal Reconstruction (MM 16-17)**

*Scheduled completion: December 2019, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Glen Scott, P.E., Mark Roberts, Engineering Tech

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 30<sup>th</sup> Street South Bridge (MM 17) followed by the 40<sup>th</sup> Street South Bridge (MM 16).

Work continues on the reconstruction of the 30<sup>th</sup> Street South Bridge along with drainage structure improvements and work to extend utilities to the new cash lanes.

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. Drivers are encouraged to stay alert and avoid distractions within the work zone.

## **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.

The contractor has completed paving adjacent to southbound I-35/KTA near mile marker 52. Crews are placing rails and backfilling the abutments on the new south frontage road bridge crossing the Turnpike. Temporary barrier wall is being removed from southbound I-35/KTA near mile marker 52. Visit [www.E54ict.com](http://www.E54ict.com) to read about project construction not related to KTA travel.

Turnpike travel impacts:

- Drivers can expect the right lane of northbound and southbound I-35/KTA to be closed between the K-96 and East Kellogg toll plazas (mile markers 53-51, I-35/KTA.) This closure allows for the construction of bridges and the new southbound KTA entry ramp.
- The East Kellogg toll plaza remains open however, access is from the south frontage road (west of KTA.) Eastbound local Kellogg traffic will exit to the south frontage road to reach the Kellogg toll plaza. 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 the Turnpike at Plaza 50/Kellogg will go east on Kellogg. Those desiring to travel west, will continue to be directed to the U-turn ½ mile east of Webb Road. By the end of November, weather permitting, the eastbound to westbound U-Turn at Webb Road will be functional along with two lanes of traffic in each direction on Webb Road.
- 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](http://www.E54ict.com) or by following @E54ict on Twitter.

## **Bridge Construction near Emporia (MM 129-130.3)**

*Scheduled completion: mid-November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Shannon Moore, P.E., Nathan Anstey, Engineering Tech

A two-year project involving ten I-335/KTA bridges northwest of Emporia began on March 15. Construction 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 on the northbound side occurred in 2018 and traffic has been normalized until spring when southbound construction will begin. During the winter season, fencing along the right-of-way and seeding will occur.

## **Pavement Resurfacing (MM 133.2-167.8) and Admire Interchange (MM 147)**

*Scheduled completion: late October 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Rich Olson, P.E., Nathan Anstey, Engineering Tech

A project to mill and inlay the driving lanes and sealing the shoulders of I-335/KTA from mile marker 133.2 and 167.8 I-335/KTA began May 21, 2018. Resurfacing the Admire Interchange at mile marker 147 is also included in the project.

The majority of this work is complete with the exception of striping the roadway where overhead bridge construction is taking place. In the spring, the contractor will finish sealing the shoulders.

## **Bridge Raising/Elevation Project – (MM 137-165)**

*Scheduled completion: late November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Luke Coltrane, P.E

Construction to increase the vertical clearance of eleven bridges crossing over I-335/KTA, between Emporia and south Topeka began July 24, 2017. Each bridge will be lifted to provide at least 15'-9" of clearance and work at each location will take approximately two months to complete.

Work is complete on 10 of the 11 bridges. The final bridge, located at mile marker 150.57 (Lyon County Road 370), continues with construction anticipated to be complete in early December, weather permitting. Until then, travelers can expect single lane traffic in both directions with a 12-foot width restriction.

Completed bridges in this project include those at mile markers 164.10 (S Hoch Road, Osage County), 154.32 (County Road 400, Lyon/Wabaunsee County line), 158.96 (W. 149<sup>th</sup> Street, Osage County), 137.04 (Road 260, Lyon County), 142 (Road S, Lyon County), 138.25 (Road 270, Lyon County), 143.46 (County Road 310, Lyon County), 151.69 (Road X, Lyon County), 148.59 (Road V6, Lyon County) and 144.75 (Lyon County Road 320.)

## **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.

Construction has started on 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 93<sup>rd</sup> Street) and 169.627 (SW 85<sup>th</sup> Street). On March 19<sup>th</sup>, SW 85<sup>th</sup> Street closed to traffic to accommodate its reconstruction in 2018.

Work on the SW 85<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge is anticipated to be complete the week of Thanksgiving, weather permitting. Remaining construction includes guardrail installation, bridge deck tining, flume inlets and pavement striping. Once the new bridge is open, minor clean-up work will occur off the roadway.

## **South Topeka Plaza, Ramps & Bridges (MM 177)**

*Scheduled completion: late November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Luke Coltrane, P.E.

A two-year project to widen and re-deck the I-470/KTA bridge crossing over Topeka Boulevard and the BNSF railroad at mile marker 177.337, reconstruct the South Topeka toll plaza, including ramp improvements, was completed in mid-November 2018 and traffic was normalized.

## **East Topeka Toll Plaza Reconstruction (MM 183)**

*Scheduled completion: late November 2018, weather permitting*

Project Manager: Luke Coltrane, P.E.; Rich Olson, P.E.; Josh Coffin, Engineering Tech

This project, to convert the East Topeka Toll Plaza located at mile marker 183 I-70/KTA to open road tolling, is essentially complete.

Now, drivers paying tolls electronically continue at highway speeds through the toll plaza, while those paying cash exit right for an entry ticket or toll payment. Electronic drivers going to K-4 will use the far-right K-TAG lane in the cash area. If a cash customer, traveling either direction, gets in the electronic lanes by mistake, they **SHOULD NOT STOP**, but continue on. Learn more about open road tolling and how this method of toll collection works by watching [this video](#) or visiting: [www.ksturnpike.com/openroad](http://www.ksturnpike.com/openroad)

## **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, have arrived and crews are in the process of installation at the service areas. Additional equipment is still in the process of being fabricated.

## **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:

- Bridge Rehabilitation, Br. Nos. 40.02 and 40.45
- Bridge Redeck and Rehabilitation, Br. Nos. 94 and 99.96
- Bridge Rehabilitation & Raise, Br. No. 102.26
- 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
- Bridge Raising #3 MM 20-22 & 59-99 (10 bridges)
- Bridge Redeck, Nos. 61 & 69