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KDOT video details SLT milestone

A key piece of a mitigation plan that cleared the way for the South Lawrence Trafficway project is now attracting visitors – both human and feathered.

The Baker Wetlands Discovery Center on the south edge of Lawrence was dedicated Sept. 30. A video of the wetlands and the dedication can be viewed at https://youtu.be/FWEDnO2_G_8.

Agreeing to build this educational facility was part of a plan that nearly quadrupled the amount of wetlands and other natural habitat along the SLT, which is now under construction by the Kansas Department of Transportation. The center is owned and operated by Baker University.

“Because of the South Lawrence Trafficway, we now have a resource that’s more accessible to all those wanting to enjoy, experience and be educated by the wetlands resource, and I think that’s a great thing. I’m happy KDOT was a part of that,” said Deputy Transportation Secretary and State Transportation Engineer Jerry Younger at the dedication.

Agreement on the \$16 million plan cleared the way for KDOT to begin construction of the road, which will connect K-10 east of Lawrence to the existing western leg of the SLT at U.S. 59 on the southern edge of Lawrence. The \$130 million road and bridge project got underway in late 2013 and is expected to be open to traffic in fall 2016.

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