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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **KDOT to repair railroad overpass east of Yates Center**

Monday, May 14, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) expects to begin an emergency repair project to the railroad overpass located on U.S. 54 just east of Yates Center.

According to KDOT Iola Area Construction Engineer Jerod Kelley, "The repair is to install cribbing in order to increase the load capacity over the structure. This will allow KDOT to take the weight restrictions off the structure and return to legal loads."

Most of the work will take place beneath the bridge. Traffic will only be affected when the contractor has to close one lane over the bridge, using flagging operations, in order to swing steel H-pile beams under the bridge. Motorists can expect delays of 15 minutes or less whenever flagging operations take place.

KDOT awarded the construction contract of \$174,000 to J&J Contractors, Inc., of Iola. Weather permitting, the project should be finished by June 4.

Kelley reminds motorists to drive carefully through the project and "Give 'Em A Brake!" Persons with questions concerning the project may contact Kelley at (620) 365-2161 or KDOT Southeast Kansas Public Affairs Manager Priscilla Petersen at 1-877-550-5368.

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