

Kansas Department of Transportation news release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New and improved traveler information services available for Winter/holiday travels

Just in time for the holidays, the Kansas Department of Transportation has released new features for KanDrive (www.kandrive.org), the traveler information gateway for Kansas and surrounding states. Specifically, several new features have been added to the 511 map page (<http://511.ksdot.org>).

RSS feeds and GeoRSS feeds are now available for roadwork activities and weather conditions. By selecting the RSS links located in the lower left corner, you will see text reports for roadwork projects and weather-related road conditions. You may also subscribe to the feeds that are automatically downloaded to your computer.

GeoRSS feeds provide the same information as the RSS feeds but shows a geographic location, such as a Google map. In order to view, users must have a GeoRSS reader, which can be downloaded from the Internet.

Live motion camera views have been added for many cameras along I-70 between Goodland and Auburn Road west of Topeka. These can be accessed by clicking on the camera icon to view a still (snapshot) image and then clicking on the "motion camera" link.

Camera images are provided by 60 closed-circuit cameras along I-70 and other highways. Eight new cameras and nine new electronic message signs have recently been added on highways.

At the top of the page, a new link, "Metro Traffic Sites" now provides drop down links to metro traffic information websites for Kansas City (KC Scout) and Wichita (WICHway), the new website for Wichita metro traffic information.

WICHway (wichway.org), will use up-to-the-minute information from the Wichita Traffic Management Center (TMC) to provide travel speeds and camera images on select routes, electronic sign messages, accident and construction information and other helpful information for drivers. A link to the 511 Map provides road condition information.

The WICHway website is just one component of a Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) project that monitors 22 miles of Wichita's highway system. ITS is the integrated application of advanced sensor and communications technologies that provide traffic information to enable efficient travel decisions by drivers.

KDOT also encourages travelers to use other free traveler information services:

- The **511 Mobile** site at <http://511mm.ksdot.org> provides map, camera and electronic message sign views, road conditions, work zone and event information and links to weather. All content is provided by six regions across the state and three metropolitan areas (Kansas City, Topeka and Wichita).

The site is accessible from multiple devices, including iPhones, Droids and Windows mobile devices, Version 6.0 and higher. Any devices not compatible with the new application will be able to access text information only for road conditions and work zones.

- **511 Phone** - From any phone anytime, travelers may call 5-1-1 from anywhere in Kansas or 1-866-511-KDOT (5368) from anywhere in the U.S. to get route-specific road conditions, work zone information, including detours and closed roads, and travel-related weather information to plan their trips or for updates as they travel.

KDOT also reminds travelers to be prepared for driving this winter. Knowledge and preparation are essential to minimizing winter weather driving hazards.

Drivers should use basic safe driving habits at any time of the year – buckling up and safely securing children in safety seats, driving alert and sober, operating your vehicle at a safe and legal speed, and avoiding driver distractions such as talking or texting on your cell phone.

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This information can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request. For information about obtaining an alternative format, contact the Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

Click below to connect to KDOT's Social Networks:



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