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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **U.S.160 Elk River Bridge replacement starts next week**

Tuesday, Dec. 10, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) expects to begin a project to replace the Elk River Bridge on U.S.160 in Montgomery County. The bridge is located approximately eight miles west of the U.S.75/U.S.160 junction west of Independence.

The contractor is reconstructing the bridge on the existing alignment of U.S.160. Work will start on building the new westbound lane. One-lane traffic, controlled by signals, will be placed on the eastbound lane. Expect brief delays at the work zone. Following completion of the westbound bridge lane, one-lane traffic will be switched onto the new lane while the contractor rebuilds the eastbound lane.

KDOT awarded the construction contract of \$4.2 million to Bridges, Inc., of Newton, Kan. According to KDOT Independence Area Engineer Luke Middleton, the new bridge should be finished in late 2014. Middleton reminds drivers to reduce their speed through the work zone, obey the signs and signals, and "Give 'Em a Brake!" Persons with questions about this or other KDOT projects may contact Middleton at (620) 331-3760 or Priscilla Petersen at 1-877-550-5368. This preservation project is part of the T-WORKS transportation program. For more information concerning T-WORKS projects visit the website, [www.ksdot.org/tworks](http://www.ksdot.org/tworks).

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