

Southeast District Office  
411 W. Fourteenth  
Chanute, KS 66720-2894



phone: 620-431-1000  
fax: 620-431-4406  
[www.ksdot.org](http://www.ksdot.org)

Mike King, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**News contact:** Priscilla Petersen, (620) 431-1000; [Priscilla@ksdot.org](mailto:Priscilla@ksdot.org)

## **Detour for K-47 bridge project in effect next week**

Starting around Tuesday or Wednesday, March 19-20, the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) will close the Neosho River Bridge on K-47 to all through traffic. The bridge is located three miles east of the south U.S.59/K-47 junction.

**Westbound K-47 traffic will follow a signed detour on state routes as follows: K-47 west to K-3, then north on K-3 to K-146, then west on K-146 to U.S. 59, and south on U.S. 59 to K-47. Eastbound motorists should follow the same route in the opposite direction. The detour will remain in effect until early June.**

Last June KDOT started a project to replace the Neosho River Bridge with a new bridge on an offset highway alignment south of the current structure. The project is not yet complete. KDOT officials decided to close the existing bridge prior to the final project phases because of the rapidly declining condition of the bridge deck. The new bridge is expected to be finished and K-47 reopened to the traveling public by early June 2013.

KDOT awarded the bridge construction contract of approximately \$4.1million to B & B Bridge Company, LLC, of St. Paul, Kan. Those with questions concerning the project or detour may contact KDOT Pittsburg Area Construction Engineer Bob Gudgen, (620) 231-7560, or KDOT Southeast District Public Affairs Manager Priscilla Petersen, (620) 431-1000. The 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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700 SW Harrison St., 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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