

Julie Lorenz, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

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KDOT announces early phases of Polk Quincy Viaduct project to begin this summer

In July 2021, Governor Laura Kelly announced that as part of the Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Plan (IKE), the Polk Quincy Viaduct project in Topeka was placed into the construction pipeline. The project expands I-70 from four lanes to six lanes from MacVicar Avenue to Topeka Boulevard, replaces the existing viaduct by flattening the curve on I-70 at Third Street and makes improvements for motorists traveling through or entering downtown Topeka.

According to the Kansas Department of Transportation, the first phase of the project will begin this summer, continuing off and on through the summer of 2024. It will include demolition of acquired properties for right-of-way, archeological survey work and utility relocation, weather permitting.

The second phase of the project is pavement maintenance and bridge deck patching on seven bridges along I-70 in downtown Topeka. This will allow the continued use of the roadway until the construction of the viaduct replacement begins. The pavement and deck patching will occur during the 2022 and 2023 construction seasons.

Reconstruction and replacement of I-70 and the Polk Quincy Viaduct will occur in the final phase of the project, which is scheduled to begin in early 2025. Drivers should expect traffic delays during the next few years as lane and ramp closures are necessary.

The cost of the project is estimated to be \$234 million.

KDOT urges all motorists to be alert and obey the warning signs when approaching and driving through a highway work zone. To stay aware of all road construction projects across Kansas, go to www.kandrive.org or call 5-1-1.

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