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TO: Mike King, Secretary of Transportation
Jerry Younger, Deputy Secretary & State Transportation Engineer
FROM: Mayor Mike Amyx, City of Lawrence Commission
Jim Flory, Chair, Douglas County Commission
CC:
DATE: October 14, 2015
RE: Western Leg of K-10 Expansion

The City of Lawrence and Douglas County appreciate and are excited for the opening of the South Lawrence Trafficway in late 2016. This project has been necessary for many years and the economic impact of this project will be substantial not only for our community but the entire state.

Opening of the South Lawrence Trafficway brings concerns for traffic volumes and safety of the western leg of K-10 around Lawrence. KDOT recognizes these concerns and has been proactively looking at design options to expand the western leg of K-10 to 4 lanes. Several design options have been explored and presented to the community.

The City of Lawrence and Douglas County have reviewed these options and agree that the expansion of the western leg of K-10 to four lanes is necessary and should be a priority for the state. The City and County agree on the following options and strongly urge KDOT to include these improvements in the project:

1. Kasold Drive / E 1200 Road is currently an at-grade two-way STOP-controlled intersection. We support the closure of this intersection as proposed due to future safety concerns.
2. Wakarusa / K-10 intersection is currently a signalized at-grade intersection. This intersection is heavily used to access YSC, softball fields, and other recreational facilities. Although signalized, this is a very unsafe intersection with motorists on K-10 traveling 65 mph and side road traffic crossing from a stopped condition. Many pedestrians and cyclists also use this intersection. The City and County agree with the proposed interchange to the east of the existing at-grade intersection and that K-10 should fly over Wakarusa. This would provide a safer and more efficient route for pedestrians and bicyclists.
3. The interchange at Clinton Parkway and K-10 is an important access for the community and Clinton Lake. Closure of this interchange is not agreeable to the City and County. If closed, traffic would be forced to use other local streets that have not been designed for the additional traffic. The additional traffic would also disrupt the livability of those

neighborhoods. Additionally, the State is looking into the feasibility of a development at Clinton Lake and this interchange may be necessary for any such development.

4. The City and County agree that a system to system interchange with K-10 and I-70 is more efficient and safer than the current configuration. Access to N 1800 Road / Route 438 (a.k.a. Farmers Turnpike) from K-10 in a toll-free fashion is important to Lawrence and Douglas County and should be maintained.

The City and County forecast a future need for the proposed Lecompton interchange and support planning for this at this time.

The City Council of Lecompton has spent considerable time considering the alternative interchange options at I-70. The City Council and Citizens of Lecompton are split on the alternatives and therefore have decided not to take an official position on the issue.

Finally, the City and County are in agreement that the western leg of K-10 will need immediate attention upon the completion of the SLT and urge KDOT to make this expansion to 4 lanes a priority.

Sincerely,

Mike Amyx, Mayor
City of Lawrence Commissioner

Jim Flory, Chair
Douglas County Commissioner