

Reminder - Upcoming ramp opening

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wichita North Junction: New ramp from NB I-235 set to open the week of Dec. 16

The Kansas Department of Transportation is set to open a new 1.5-mile-long ramp that is part of the Wichita North Junction's Phase 2B project the week of Dec. 16, weather permitting.

It is the first of three sections of the Gold Project (Phase 2B) to be completed, which will help improve safety and reduce congestion, especially during morning rush hour. The ramp is a two-lane direct connection that will provide access from northbound I-235 to eastbound K-96/29th Street and Hydraulic Avenue (Exit 16A).

Motorists should be aware that the ramp does not connect to southbound I-135. Drivers who need to access southbound I-135 will need to continue past the new ramp to Exit 16B. Exit 16B will now direct commuters to southbound I-135, while Exit 16C remains for northbound I-135.

Work on the second and third parts of the Phase 2B are currently underway. They include:

- A loop ramp will be replaced from westbound K-96 to southbound I-135 with a two-lane flyover direct connection along with widening southbound I-135 south of K-96.
- A new two-lane ramp will also be provided from westbound K-96 to northbound I-135.

Bergkamp King, A Joint Venture, LLC, is the prime contractor on Phase 2B of the Wichita North Junction. The \$140.8 million project began in February 2023, with a completion date in mid-2026.

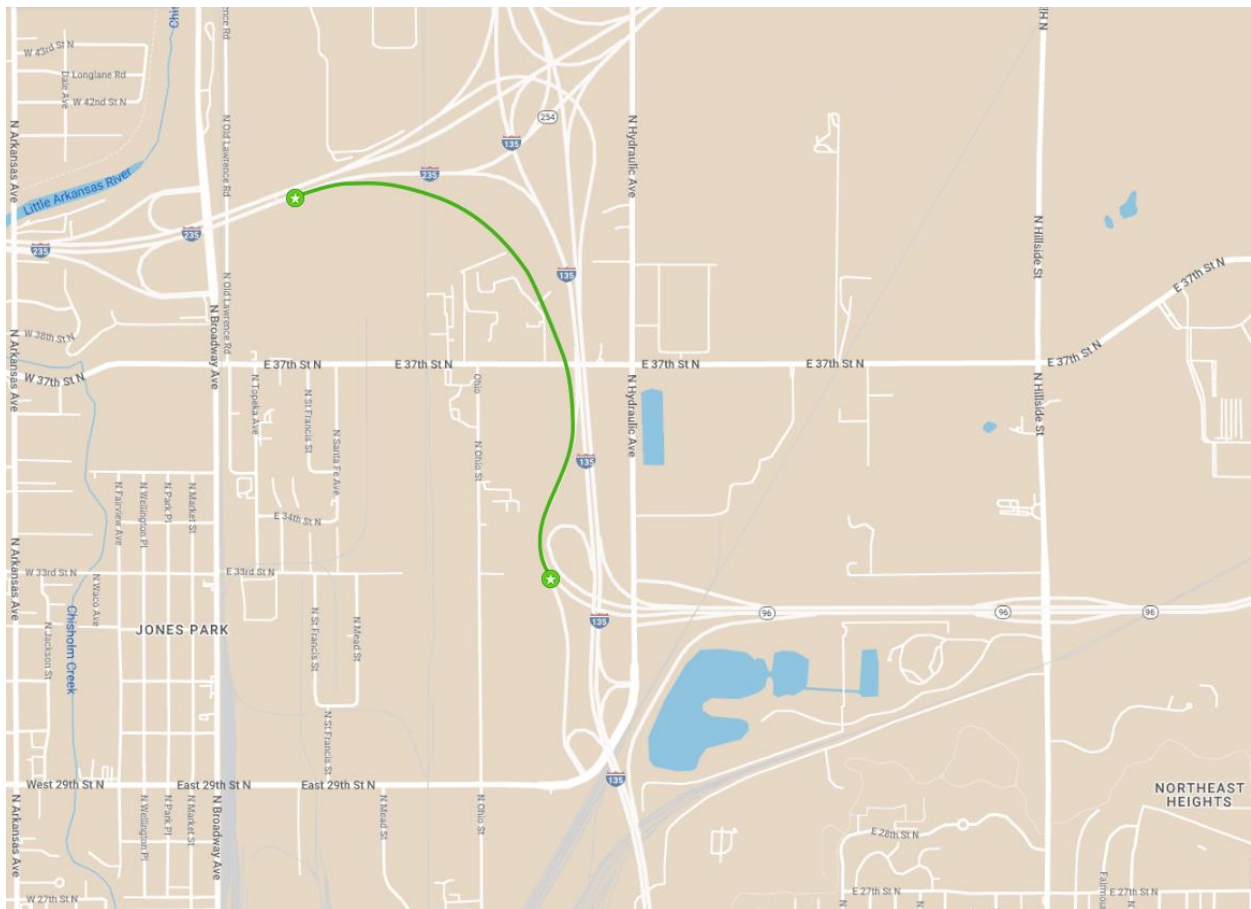
The three sections of the Gold Project (Phase 2B):

- Address the morning peak congestion times by providing a direct connection from I-235 northbound to K-96 eastbound. It also includes 2-lane ramps from K-

96 westbound to I-135 northbound and southbound and associated auxiliary lanes.

- Include 11 bridges, one bridge widening, six full bridge demolitions, one box extension and 12 retaining walls. This includes six railroad overpasses: one over BNSF Railway and five over Union Pacific Railroad.
- Involve:
 - 1.3 million cubic yards of dirt to be moved.
 - 11.3 million pounds of steel for bride construction.
 - 17,500 tons of asphalt.
 - 23,000 tons of rip rap.

The map below outlines the new route.



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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 KDOT Communications Division, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3745 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

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