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June 23, 2014

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## **Kansas transportation plans recognized**

Three Kansas Department of Transportation planning studies have been recognized for excellence by two engineering associations.

American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) of Kansas presented KDOT two Engineering Excellence Awards for plans that take a proactive look at future development and associated traffic congestion in the Kansas City area. And, the 5-County Regional Transportation Study has been selected for the 2013 KC Chapter Institute of Transportation Engineers' (KCITE) Excellence in Transportation Award.

The ACEC awards were for the I-35 Corridor Optimization Plan, also known as I-35: Moving Forward, and the Southwest Johnson County Area Plan. The I-35 study gives KDOT a plan to optimize traffic flow through targeted improvements along the I-35 corridor in Johnson and Wyandotte counties. The Southwest Johnson County Area Plan covers a 21-square-mile area around the Logistics Park Kansas City Intermodal Facility and completes needed land use planning and transportation planning for the area. The awards were presented on Thursday, June 19, at the June meeting of the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers.

The 5-County study is a multi-year effort jointly conducted by KDOT, the Mid-America Regional Council and the Lawrence-Douglas County Metropolitan Planning Organization. It evaluated and prioritized strategies and potential projects across key corridors within the Kansas City and Lawrence region of northeast Kansas. Strategies

and projects were recommended in three categories: transportation systems management, travel demand management and capacity enhancement.

The award will be presented at the July meeting of KCITE in North Kansas City, Mo. The project has now been submitted to the Missouri Valley section of ITE (MOVITE) to be considered for MOVITE's Transportation Achievement Award.

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