

April 20, 2011

11-032

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Berry Plastics awarded economic development funding

Berry Plastics of Lawrence will be the initial recipient of economic development funding made possible by T-WORKS, the transportation program passed by the Kansas Legislature last May.

The Kansas Department of Transportation is providing \$300,000 in funding to assist with roadway improvements at a new Berry Plastics facility located $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of the intersection of Douglas County roads 438 and 1029.

The funds will be used to make improvements on County Route 438, which include construction of an eastbound left turn lane and extension of the existing westbound turn lane. Douglas County applied for the funding and will provide a 25 percent local match toward the \$400,000 project.

“We’re thrilled we were able to work successfully with Berry Plastics and KDOT to put this economic package together, allowing for expansion of their operation in our community,” said Craig Weinaug, Douglas County Administrator. “Not only will this project have economic benefits, but it will also address issues involving increased traffic and safety.”

The turning lanes will service a \$19 million capital improvement investment that will allow Berry Plastics to relocate their warehousing and printing operations. This will then allow for expansion production at their current location in Lawrence.

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