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Kansas Department of Transportation News Release FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New WICHway Website is Smartphone-ready

WICHway, the Kansas Department of Transportation's Intelligent Transportation System on Wichita's highways, has a new interactive website that functions on all types of computers plus it is useable on Smartphones in much the same way as a phone app.

"With a growing percentage of Internet activity taking place on Smartphones, we thought it was important to adjust our information sharing to accommodate that platform," said Secretary of Transportation Mike King.

"We want to share the data we gather from Wichita's highways and allow drivers to make informed decisions about their travels. Of course, we want people to access this information before they get in their vehicles."

The website, www.WICHway.org, shares information from 38 cameras, 43 traffic sensors and 21 electronic message signs on Wichita's most traveled highways – U.S. 54, I-135 and K-96.

Smartphone users can access the website using a search engine or their web browser. They can bookmark the page to their home screen where it becomes a shortcut to the website then functions like a phone app.

A short video illustrating this process is available at <http://youtu.be/XDkyqLhOMSE>.

Bringing an Intelligent Transportation System to Wichita's highways began with a deployment plan that was completed in 1999. A test project was initiated in 2009 and the first full deployment of roadside cameras, traffic sensors and message signs was completed in 2011.

The information nerve center for WICHway is co-located with Sedgwick County 911 operators in their emergency communication center. KDOT contracts with Sedgwick County to provide a 911 operator at the WICHway console, monitoring cameras and posting messages, Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m., Wichita's peak traffic times.

Partners in the project include KDOT, Sedgwick County, City of Wichita, Kansas Highway Patrol, Kansas Turnpike Authority, Federal Highway Administration and Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

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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 Bureau of Transportation Information, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754 or phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

Click below to connect to KDOT's Social Networks:



The screenshot shows the WICHway website interface. At the top, the logo reads "WICHway KDOT's Intelligent Transportation System". Below the logo are navigation tabs for TRAVEL SPEEDS, ROAD CONDITIONS, CONSTRUCTION, and CAMERAS & SIGNS. A prominent alert banner states "US 54 Left Ln. Closed" with a sub-message: "Left lane closed for eastbound & westbound US 54400 (E. Kellogg) between Woodawn & Rock. Oct. 14 - late Nov." Below this is an interactive map of the Wichita area with a red line indicating the closed lane. To the right of the map are buttons for TRAVEL SPEEDS, ROAD CONDITIONS, CAMERAS & SIGNS, and ROAD CONSTRUCTION. Further down, there are camera feeds and a "CAMERAS TOUR" section with an alert: "ACCIDENT AHEAD AT I-235 USE LEFT LANE". The footer includes contact information for the Kansas Department of Transportation and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook.

wichway.org

The screenshot shows the WICHway mobile application interface on a smartphone. The top of the screen displays the WICHway logo and the URL "wichway.org". Below the logo is the same "US 54 Left Ln. Closed" alert banner. A vertical menu of blue buttons is visible, including TRAVEL SPEEDS, ACTIVE INCIDENTS, ROAD CONDITIONS, CONSTRUCTION, and CAMERAS & SIGNS. The phone is held by a hand with red nail polish.

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