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Press Release

Andale Inc. to close 61st Road to southbound traffic on Monday

Skyline to remain closed to through traffic from 61st Road to Eighth Street

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (October 2, 2015) — Construction on the intersection of Skyline and 61st roads in north Arkansas City will begin Monday, with pavement removal proceeding west on Skyline.

Skyline Road will remain barricaded and closed to through traffic from 61st Road to Eighth Street.

Property owners within the closed area still will be allowed access to their properties, but through traffic will be diverted.

Meanwhile, the northbound lane of 61st Road will remain open from Skyline to Goff Industrial Park Road so truck traffic can continue to access Creekstone Farms Premium Beef LLC from U.S. 77.

However, the southbound lane of 61st will be closed from Goff to Skyline, so traffic leaving Creekstone will need to exit northbound onto 61st Road.

“We are in direct communication with the businesses and property owners in the area to minimize any inconvenience or disruption,” said Public Works Director Eric Broce.

“There will be approximately four phases of varying road closures and detour routes through construction of the project. Public notification will be given prior to each phase or traffic detour modification. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this road closure.”

Andale Ready Mix Central, Inc. was awarded a contract on July 7 for \$2,899,914.15 to complete the 61st and Skyline roads reconstruction project, which includes new street lighting, the widening of Skyline, auxiliary turning lanes, pedestrian sidewalks, storm sewer improvements, new pavement markings and signage.

The pavement section of Skyline will be constructed to support the expected increase in truck traffic.

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Utility relocation and other site preparations have been ongoing since August. Construction is expected to be completed by May 31, 2016.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), which originally pledged to pay \$2.3 million of the costs of the project through an economic development grant to support the expansion of the nearby Creekstone Farms meatpacking plant, since has agreed to provide an additional \$300,000 toward the cost of the project, for a total grant contribution of \$2.6 million.

The remaining \$299,914.15 will come from the City of Arkansas City's Street Improvement Fund, which was funded through a five-year, half-cent street sales tax that concluded last year.

The engineer's estimate for this project was \$3,179,223. Andale was the lowest of three bidders.