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Press Release

Andale Inc. to close Skyline-61st Road intersection on Friday

61st Road to be closed to through traffic from Skyline Road to 252nd Road

ARKANSAS CITY, Kan. (February 10, 2016) — Construction on 61st Road, including the north leg of the intersection of 61st and Skyline roads in north Arkansas City, will begin Friday as part of an ongoing reconstruction project.

The county road, part of which is slated to be brought into the City limits, will be closed to all through traffic from Skyline Road north to 252nd Road. Access will be maintained for local residents, however.

This closure will include the complete shutdown of the intersection of 61st and Goff Industrial Park roads. Traffic to and from Creekstone Farms Premium Beef will need to use Eighth Street and Skyline Road to access the meatpacking facility in lieu of 61st Road.

Both Skyline Road and Eighth Street will remain open to accommodate all northbound and southbound traffic to and from Goff Industrial Park.

"We understand the inconvenience of the road construction, but look forward to the much-needed renovations to 61st Road," said Public Works Director Eric Broce.

"This is the last of four phases of varying road closures and detour routes throughout construction of the project. Weather permitting, the overall road project should be substantially complete within the next 60 days. Thank you for your patience and cooperation during this road closure."

Andale Ready Mix Central, Inc. was awarded a contract July 7, 2015, for an amount not to exceed \$2,899,914.15, to complete the 61st and Skyline roads reconstruction project, including new street lighting, the widening of Skyline, auxiliary turning lanes, pedestrian sidewalks, storm sewer improvements, new pavement markings and signage.

The pavement of Skyline was reconstructed to support an expected increase in truck traffic.

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Utility relocation and other site preparations began last August. This final project phase should last for approximately eight weeks. Construction is expected to be completed by May 31.

The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), which originally pledged to pay \$2.3 million of the costs of the overall project through an economic development grant to support the expansion of the nearby Creekstone Farms meatpacking plant, later 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 in 2014.

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