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## MoDOT Kansas City Area District News Release



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### Ground Breaking for I-70 at I-435 Interchange Improvements

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Motorists slowed by one of the biggest bottlenecks in the Kansas City area will soon see improvements, now that work has begun to add a third lane of I-70 at the I-435 interchange.

A ground breaking ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 30, will mark the official start of a major project to add more lanes to I-70 at I-435, provide new access to Route 40 and move traffic during peak periods. MoDOT and representatives of Kansas City, Mo., Independence and Jackson County will turn soil on the west side of the Route 40 bridge over I-435 in Kansas City, Mo. to celebrate the official beginning of this project.

The I-435 and I-70 interchange will be improved to reduce bottlenecks and improve both capacity and access.

Clarkson Construction Co. received the \$39,337,177 contract. These improvements were designed by DRG Consultants. The project is funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act approved by Congress in 2009 to stimulate the U.S. economy, and through MoDOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program.

Improvements under this contract will:

- add a half-diamond interchange at I-435 and Route 40
- replace the Blue Ridge Cutoff (George Brett) Bridge over I-70 with a wider, broader span that will include a wider sidewalk and reconfigured ramps
- reconfigure the ramps at I-70 and Route 40
- reconfigure the ramp from northbound I-435 to eastbound I-70 with a direct connection to the Blue Ridge Cutoff
- Add a third through-lane on both eastbound and westbound I-70 beneath I-435

These improvements are expected to be completed by the end of 2011.

For more information about other MoDOT projects, please visit MoDOT's Website at [www.modot.mo.gov/kansascity](http://www.modot.mo.gov/kansascity). For instant updates, follow MoDOT\_KC on Twitter or send questions and comments to [kccommunityrelations@modot.mo.gov](mailto:kccommunityrelations@modot.mo.gov).