The City of Shawnee and Monticello North Corridor study team invite you to attend a public information open house:

**Thursday, October 2, 2008**

4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Monticello Trails Middle School
6100 Monticello Road
Shawnee, KS 66226

Take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about the study and speak directly with representatives of the City and study team.

**How Does Monticello Work For You?**

You are invited to be part of a comprehensive study of traffic needs along the Monticello Road corridor between Johnson Drive and 66th Street. The study will examine how traffic flows around, into and out of the many school facilities in the study area and what improvements are needed to provide safe and efficient traffic flow. The study team will evaluate a number of alternatives that could reduce traffic backups, while maintaining or improving pedestrian safety.

The purpose of the study is to determine the needs of drivers, residents, pedestrians and bicyclists, and to involve them and other stakeholders in identifying the best solutions for moving traffic in and around schools and neighborhoods.

You have a variety of opportunities to learn about and comment on the study before any design plans are finalized. These include an open house, multiple drop-in centers, public meetings, e-mails and newsletters.

**Study Schedule**

- Public open house at Monticello Trails Middle School – October 2, 2008
- Data Collection (survey, traffic counts, zoning and land use, etc.) – ongoing through October 2008
- Preliminary report – November 2008
- Formal public meeting to present preferred alternative solution – November 2008
- Final report presented to the City of Shawnee – January 2009

*In this day of tight budgets, high fuel costs and environmental sensitivity, we have to look at things differently. We don’t have the available funding to widen Monticello Road to four lanes any time soon, and we don’t know that widening is actually the best solution for the long term. In Shawnee, we all work together to get things done. I hope the residents who drive Monticello Road every day will give some of their time to participate in the study. By using the braintrust of our citizens, along with the professional tools of the planners and engineers, I am optimistic we can identify unique solutions to the congestion on Monticello.*

– Mayor Jeff Meyers
The Study Area

The corridor study area lies between Woodland Drive to the east; K-7 to the west; Shawnee Mission Parkway to the south; and Johnson Drive to the north.

Mill Valley High School, Monticello Trails Middle School and Clear Creek Elementary School all have entrances directly on Monticello Road. In addition, Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School has dual access from Monticello Road and Johnson Drive.

Residents in the many adjacent subdivisions also rely on Monticello Road as their primary means of getting to their homes, schools, churches and major roadways.

The Study Team

Shafer, Kline and Warren (SKW), a consulting engineering firm, has been involved in preparing traffic and preliminary plans within the study area and providing engineering services for the many education facilities that access Monticello Road. Working with SKW on public involvement is Jane Mobley Associates (JMA), a public relations and communication firm.

Both firms are working closely with the City of Shawnee, representatives of the DeSoto Unified School District #232, property owners, community groups and other stakeholders to identify issues and explore solutions to the traffic congestion.

Q & A

Q. Why is this segment of Monticello Road being studied?
A. We have heard from many citizens over the years requesting improvements to this roadway. This project has been on the City’s Capital Improvement Program for five years. The study team is collecting existing traffic data and forecasting future conditions. Additionally, the public will have multiple opportunities to voice their opinions based on their own personal traveling experiences. This is the first step in a process to determine what changes, if any, should be considered.

Q. What are potential alternatives to widening Monticello Road between 66th Street and Johnson Drive?
A. Effective alternatives to widening might include traffic signals, access medians, two-way left turn lanes, auxiliary right turn lanes, school zone improvements and consideration of future connections to adjacent roadways. No conclusions will be made until all the data and public comments are collected.

Q. How will public input be utilized and the preferred alternative be developed?
A. Engineers and city planners will weigh the data and public input. Alternatives will be evaluated on how well they reduce traffic backup while maintaining or improving pedestrian and traffic safety.

Q. Who will make the final decision and when will it be made?
A. The study team will present recommendations to the Shawnee City Council at the conclusion of the study (January 2009). The project implementation and construction schedule will depend on the scope of the improvements, available funding and coordination with other projects in the area.

Community input is a valuable part of this process. A variety of communication channels have been employed to keep area stakeholders informed and involved. If you are unable to attend the October meeting, contact us to learn more about the study and future meetings.

City of Shawnee – Public Works Traffic Division
11110 Johnson Drive
Shawnee, Kansas 66203
Attention: Mark Sherfy, P.E.
Phone: (913) 631-3741, extension 203
Email: msherfy@cityofshawnee.org

Or visit the project site on the Web at www.cityofshawnee.org