Construction near KU Med to create traffic delays
by Erin Stryka

New construction projects at the University of Kansas Medical Center (KUMC) and the University of Kansas Hospital will create traffic delays now through July 2016.

The projects include the University of Kansas Hospital’s Cambridge North Tower construction at 39th Ave. and Cambridge St., and KUMC’s Health Education Building at 39th Ave. and Rainbow Blvd.

“The University of Kansas is home to the state’s only school of medicine, which means we are uniquely positioned to address Kansas’ critical shortage of healthcare professionals,” said Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little.

“This new building will enable us to increase the number of doctors we train, and to train them in the technologically advanced environment required by a modern health care curriculum. In other words, it positions KU to address the state’s doctor shortage head-on and build healthier Kansas communities.”

The Cambridge North Tower will not only add more facilities and services to the University of Kansas Hospital, it will also create 600 new healthcare jobs.

Both projects are expected to be completed in 2017.

39th Avenue
- Although traffic on 39th Ave. will remain two way, it will be reduced to one lane each direction.
- Pedestrian traffic will be detoured. These routes will be clearly marked.
- Access to the University of Kansas Hospital’s Emergency Department (ED) will not change.

Cambridge Drive and Cambridge Parking Garage
- From 39th Ave. to the Cambridge Parking Garage, Cambridge Dr. will consist of two lanes of southbound traffic only.
- From Olathe Blvd., northbound traffic will be able to enter the Cambridge Parking Garage and access the Heart Hospital and main hospital entrance.

Weekend closures
- Beginning mid-February, approximately six weekend closures will be necessary to install the pedestrian walkway structure, which will connect the Center for Advanced Heart Care across Cambridge Dr. and 39th Ave. to the new Cambridge North Tower.
- Weekend closures will require a complete shutdown from Fridays to Mondays on 39th St. to State Line Rd., including access to Cambridge Dr.
- Street closures will occur at 12 p.m. on Fridays and reopen at 6 a.m. on Mondays.
- Notifications of the weekend closure dates will be provided two weeks in advance.

General safety precautions
- Safety is the top priority of the hospital and Medical Center leadership.
- All driving and pedestrian detours will be clearly marked.
- Pay close attention to signs, flagmen, and traffic during this time.
- Slow down and allow for extra time to travel near the campus.

Updates and disruption notices can be found throughout the project at http://www.kumc.edu/construction.html or by calling Rosedale Development Association at (913) 677-5097.
Pete Cashen
Cashen wanted to volunteer for RDA to give back to the community where he lived since 1988. He partnered with a friend, opening Dynamic Discs, a disc golf store, four years ago in the newly remodeled Northwood Shopping Center. Pete is committed to living and working in the Rosedale community.

Mary Gonzales
Mary Gonzales has always been interested in being involved in her community. In addition to serving on RDA’s board, Mary serves on the BPU Board and belongs to several utility organizations as well as educational organizations. Mary is a retired teacher, and is married with three sons, two step-daughters, and six grandchildren.
Unified Government announces tax rebate resources
by the Unified Government of WyCo and KCK

The Senior Citizen Utility Rebate is a program to serve low-income, elderly citizens of Kansas City, Kansas that will help them recover a portion of taxes paid in the previous year. To qualify for the refund you must be a KCK resident, be 65 years of age or older for the entire previous calendar year, and have a gross income from all sources (including that of spouse) that does not exceed $25,000 per year.

To apply for the refund, seniors must provide proof of income for 2015 and all 2015 utility, telephone and gas bills. Seniors can visit the Clerk’s office at 701 N. 7th St., Suite 323 (on a first come first serve basis) between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through March 31, 2016.

The Kansas Homestead Refund is a real estate tax rebate program for home owners in Wyandotte County. This program provides eligible homeowners with an opportunity to directly apply a portion of their expected Homestead Property Tax Refund toward the first half of their real estate taxes.

To qualify for the refund in 2015, you must be a homeowner with a total income for everyone in the household of $34,000 or less and born before January 1, 1960, or have dependents under the age of 18 who live with you, or be totally and permanently disabled or blind, or a Veteran with 50 percent or more permanent disability while on active duty, or a surviving spouse of disabled veteran or active duty who died in the line of duty.

To apply for the refund applicants must provide proof of income for 2015. Assistance with this refund can be by way of a paid or volunteer tax preparer, or applicants can visit the Clerk’s office at 701 N. 7th St., Suite 323 (on a first come first serve basis) between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday through April 15, 2016.

Questions regarding either the Senior Citizen Utility Rebate or the Kansas Homestead Refund can be directed to (913) 573-5260.
Survey Update

Eighty percent of Rosedalians indicate need for more updates
by Adrianne Showalter Matlock

Rosedale is home to some great parks and community events, but many Rosedalians reported in the Community Survey that the main thing standing in their way of utilizing these spaces and participating in events is a lack of awareness of such programs. From all the options, 80 percent of respondents indicated that simply not knowing about these events inhibited their participation.

If you heard about a chance to get out and enjoy activity in the sunshine, would you go? If you knew of a place to get fresh food and chat with neighbors, would you check it out? In the survey, Rosedale residents told us that the most common ways that they heard about the survey were mail, billboards, and the RDA newsletter. Nearly 50 percent said they heard about the survey through mailings, followed by 20 percent who noticed information on the billboards, and 15 percent who learned of it in the RDA newsletter. RDA plans to use those methods of communication to get the word out about opportunities and activities. We want to put the information in your hands so you can get the most out of living in Rosedale.

Is there an avenue of communication that works best for you and your family? Give us a call at (913) 677-5097.

A Rosedalian completing the survey.