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Portion of barrier wall falls off westbound Polk-Quincy Viaduct

According to the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT), approximately 60 feet of the north barrier wall of westbound I-70 fell off the Polk-Quincy Viaduct in Topeka earlier this evening. The bridge is currently undergoing repairs to allow the continued use of the roadway until construction of the viaduct replacement begins in 2025.

KDOT bridge design team assessed the current situation tonight and are confident that further failure is not eminent. The debris that fell from the bridge fell into an empty parking lot. There were not any injuries. KDOT maintenance crews will place dump trucks on the closed outside lane as a temporary measure to substitute for the barrier, allowing traffic to use the inside lane.

KDOT bridge design staff and the contractor will conduct a more thorough assessment on Monday, June 13, and will begin to place permanent measures for westbound I-70 traffic and traffic on the surface streets below the viaduct.

KDOT urges all motorists to be alert and obey the warning signs when approaching and driving through a highway work zone. To stay aware of all road construction projects across Kansas, go to www.kandrive.org or call 5-1-1.

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