



# DE SOTO DEVELOPMENT

*Newsletter featuring updates on development in De Soto.*

April 2024

## Development Updates

### JETRO Visits De Soto Area; Japanese Group Tours Site



About 40 representatives from the the **Japan External Trade Organization, JETRO**, visited the De Soto area this month to learn more about development opportunities. JETRO is a non-profit organization that connects businesses to opportunity, working with Japanese companies interested in developing in the U.S. as well as U.S.-based companies expanding to Japan.

The group toured Astra Enterprise Park and Flint Commerce Center, both located in Southwest De Soto. City Administrator Mike Brungardt and Mayor Rick Walker shared information about

De Soto and fielded questions from attendees.

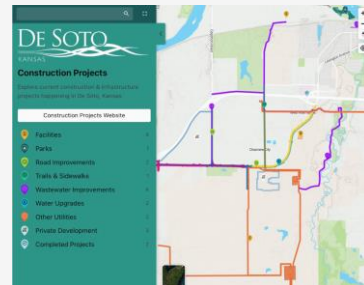
The meeting was organized by the Kansas State Department of Commerce.

**Learn more about JETRO [here](#).**

## Interactive Construction Map Tracks Progress

Curious about all the construction activity happening in De Soto? Check out our newly upgraded [Interactive Construction Projects Map](#).

It's your go-to guide for all current and upcoming projects on what's happening in De Soto.



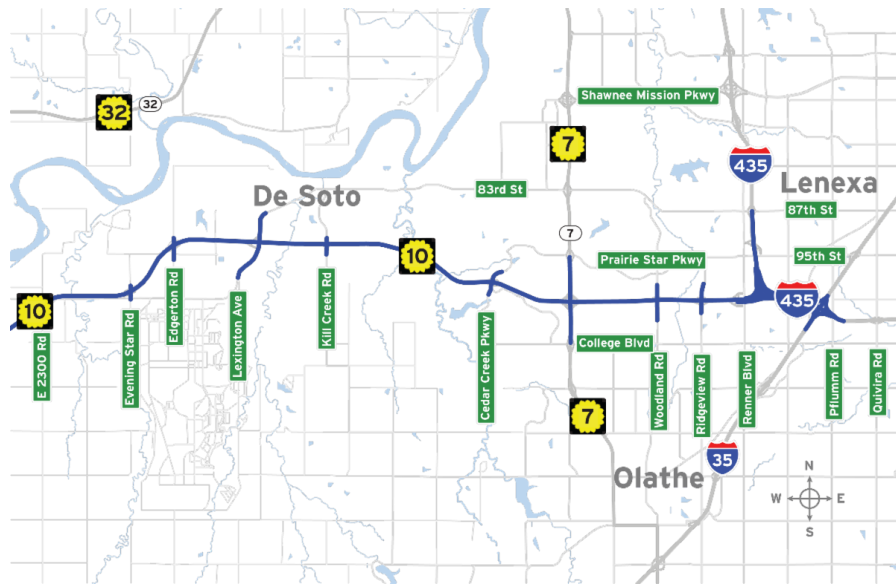
## Summit Connects Businesses to Panasonic Opportunities

U.S. Rep. Sharice Davids' office organized a **Kansas Small Business Summit** this month to share resources and field questions about growth and development opportunities stemming from construction of Panasonic's electric vehicle battery manufacturing facility.

Representatives from the regional office of the U.S. Small Business Administration, the Kansas Department of Commerce and Panasonic Energy of North America attended.

Resources shared at the meeting include:

- [Sign up](#) for the Panasonic Energy News Digest, a quarterly newsletter featuring construction updates, community highlights and more.
- [Contact](#) Panasonic to express your interest as a supplier or partner.



## KDOT Gives Update on K-10

The Kansas Department of Transportation held two open houses on the K-10 Corridor Capacity Improvements Project this month, sharing updates on recommended options, proposed interchange improvements and next steps.

If you didn't attend, you can still review materials [here](#). They'll be up until May 19 -- and you can still submit question and comments using the [online comment form](#). Please visit to access the meeting materials online.

You can also learn more at the project [website](#).

The K-10 Corridor Capacity Improvements Project, part of KDOT's [Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program](#) (IKE), is designed to address safety and congestion issues from the Douglas/Johnson County line to I-435, and enhance the corridor's key role in supporting economic development.

## EDC Updates

### EDC Report: A Look at Who's Looking

De Soto has seen a flurry of activity from interested investors recently. The EDC team has completed 19 RFIs in the last couple of months. Here's a snapshot of some of the 21 active projects expressing interest in developing in the area:

- 13 manufacturing facilities
- 3 data centers
- 3 distribution centers
- 2 research and development facility

*Note: These projects are confidential, and the team cannot relay additional information.*

## Join the EDC for the Solution Series Breakfast

The De Soto Economic Development Council will host leaders from the Kansas City Area Development Council (KCADC), including **Chris Gutierrez President of KC SmartPort**, to discuss how they work to promote the metro and attract industry to our region.

Join us for discussions with area business leaders, networking and the latest development updates. The event is \$20 for members; \$25 for non-members. RSVP below.

### Attracting Business to the Heartland

**May 7, 2024**

7:30 to 9 a.m.

Program starts at 8 a.m.

U.S.D. 231 Administrative Offices  
35200 West 91st Street, De Soto Kansas

*KCADC is a private organization charged with representing the economic interests of the entire two-state, 18-county greater Kansas City region.*

[RSVP](#)

[Visit the De Soto EDC Website](#)

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