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For Immediate Release  
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## **ADOT Sets Dates for I-10 Ramp Closures from Prince Road to 29th Street**

I-10 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO CLOSE RAMPS AND SHIFT TRAFFIC BEGINNING  
JUNE 15, 2007

TUCSON, AZ – May 11, 2007 – On June 15, 2007, the Arizona Department of Transportation begins a 16-day, three-stage closure of I-10 entrance and exit ramps between Prince Road and 29th Street, re-routing traffic onto the frontage roads. These ramps will remain closed for about three years, while an additional lane is added to I-10 in each direction, and overpasses are rebuilt to accommodate the additional lanes.

The period prior to ramp closures will see numerous changes in traffic control in order to prepare for the safe closure of the ramps. Expect traffic delays, and please exercise patience, caution and courtesy. During the 16-day, three-stage ramp closure and I-10 traffic shifting, there will be no cross-street lane closures during these weekend operations.

### **Prior to Ramp Closures**

Prior to ramp closures, the frontage roads will be re-striped to three lanes in each direction, stop and yield signs will be removed, traffic signals will be retimed, and the Traffic Operations Center (TOC) will become operational.

### **Stage 1: Westbound (toward Phoenix) Ramp Closures**

- At 10 p.m. on Friday, June 15, all of the westbound ramps from 29th Street to Prince Road will close for about three years. Westbound I-10 will close temporarily from 10 p.m. Friday, June 15, until noon, Sunday, June 17. All three lanes of westbound traffic on I-10 from 29th Street to Prince Road will be routed onto the westbound frontage road at 29th Street. This temporary closure is necessary for the safety of motorists and construction workers as they re-stripe and set barriers in the westbound section of I-10.
- At noon on Sunday, June 17, I-10 westbound through-traffic will be re-routed back onto I-10. Motorists traveling westbound I-10 who need to access cross-streets between Prince Road and 29th Street (local traffic) will exit at 29th Street and use the frontage roads.

### **Stage 2: Eastbound (toward El Paso) Ramp Closures**

- At 10 p.m. on Friday, June 22, all eastbound ramps from Prince Road to 29th Street will close until spring 2010. Eastbound I-10 will close temporarily from 10 p.m. Friday, June 22, until noon on Sunday, June 24. At Prince Road, all three eastbound lanes of I-10 will be routed onto the eastbound frontage road as workers re-stripe and set barriers on eastbound I-10 in the construction zone.

- At noon on Sunday, June 24, eastbound I-10 through-traffic will be re-routed back onto two eastbound lanes on I-10. Motorists traveling eastbound I-10 who need to access cross-streets between Prince Road and 29th Street (local traffic) will exit at Prince Road and use the frontage roads.

### **Stage 3: Full I-10 Closure from Prince Road to 29th Street**

- At 10 p.m. on Friday, June 29, both westbound and eastbound sides of I-10 will close temporarily until noon on Sunday, July 1, and all I-10 traffic, both westbound and eastbound, will be routed onto the frontage roads.
- By noon on Sunday, July 1, all I-10 through-traffic will be re-routed back onto the freeway, and all local traffic will continue to use frontage roads. This weekend closure is necessary for workers to place barriers and traffic control measures that will re-route all I-10 through-traffic to one side of the freeway. This move keeps I-10 construction workers and activities safely away from I-10 traffic throughout the project. One side of the freeway will carry all four lanes of traffic while construction occurs on the other side.

### **Traffic Patterns from July 1, 2007, through Spring 2010**

Throughout the remainder of the I-10 Widening project, local traffic between Prince Road and 29th Street will travel on the frontage roads, while through-traffic continues to use lanes on the Interstate. Local eastbound traffic will exit I-10 at Prince Road and local westbound and northbound traffic will exit I-10 and I-19 at 29th Street. With the exception of a few temporary nighttime closures for bridge demolition and reconstruction, all major cross-streets in the project area will remain open. A seven-foot shoulder along the frontage roads will help facilitate flow of emergency services vehicles.

### **Getting On and Off I-10**

#### Prince Road/I-10 Interchange

At the Prince Road and I-10 interchange, motorists who wish to enter I-10 westbound (toward Phoenix) or exit I-10 eastbound (toward downtown Tucson) can use the entrance and exit ramps at Prince Road. Motorists CANNOT exit I-10 westbound, or enter I-10 eastbound using the ramps at Prince Road. These motorists will need to use the ramps at El Camino del Cerro/Ruthrauff Road, north of Prince Road.

#### 29th Street/I-10 Interchange

Because of the proximity of the I-10/I-19 interchange to the intersection of 29th Street and I-10, directions for this area are more involved. Here are the guidelines, which will be indicated with signage on the roadways.

#### *Getting onto I-10:*

- For motorists on local streets near 29th Street who wish to enter I-10 westbound (toward Phoenix), the entrance ramp at Sixth Avenue will be the nearest open ramp.
- Motorists on the frontage road (local streets) who wish to enter I-10 eastbound (toward El Paso) or I-19 southbound (toward Nogales), must use the entrance ramps just south of Silverlake/29th Street near the I-10/I-19 Interchange.

#### *Getting off I-10:*

- Motorists on I-10 westbound or I-19 northbound who wish to access local streets between 29th Street and Prince Road will use the 29th Street exit.

- Motorists on I-10 eastbound who wish to access local streets between 29th Street and Prince Road can continue to Sixth Avenue and make a U-turn using the exit ramp-overpass-entrance ramp at Sixth Avenue, then exit I-10 at 29th Street.
- The Ajo Way exit ramp-overpass-entrance ramp also provides an alternative U-turn for I-10/I-19 eastbound/southbound motorists who want to access downtown streets.
- Motorists on I-10/I-19 eastbound/southbound who want to access local streets west of the freeway can take the Ajo Way exit from I-19.

*Merging between I-10 and I-19:*

- Through-traffic merging between I-10 and I-19 will see no changes.

For an illustration of these directions, please see the *Driving Directions after Ramp Closures* map provided in the project brochure and on the Web site at [www.i10tucson.com](http://www.i10tucson.com).

**Transitioning to New Traffic Patterns**

The two or three weeks prior to June 15, 2007, will see numerous changes in traffic control in order to prepare for the safe closure of the ramps. From late May through mid-July, please expect traffic delays as motorists adjust to new traffic patterns. Please plan ahead and exercise patience, caution and courtesy.

**To Stay Informed**

The public may check on current traffic impacts online or by phone. For online updates, go to [www.i10tucson.com](http://www.i10tucson.com) and click on Traffic Alerts. While online, the public may view routing maps and other project details, sign up to receive e-mail traffic alerts, and click on az511 for a camera view of traffic. The I-10 Hotline number is (520) 327-6444 or toll-free (877) 961-1010.

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