



**Metro**

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June 13, 2018

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THROUGH: PHILLIP A. WASHINGTON** PAW  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**FROM: SHAHRZAD AMIRI** SA  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CONGESTION REDUCTION**

**SUBJECT: I-10 EXPRESS LANES CLOSURES BETWEEN FREMONT AVENUE**  
**AND RIO HONDO AVENUE**

**ISSUE**

Beginning the evening of June 15, 2018, Caltrans will close access points of the I-10 ExpressLanes at ten locations for a total duration of ten weekends for bridge safety related construction work. Each weekend closure will be in only one direction of travel for a total of 55 hours for the ExpressLanes section, and as needed on the General Purpose (GP) lanes. Drivers in the ExpressLanes will be required to merge out of the lanes and into the GP lanes prior to the construction zone. The closure will increase traffic congestion in the area. City streets below the construction work may also need to be closed during the ExpressLanes 55 hour closure. The closures will begin on Friday at 10:00 PM and end on the following Monday at 5:00 AM. Caltrans and Metro will undertake proactive measures to inform the public and ExpressLanes customers of the closures.

***Background***

The Caltrans led construction project will remove the freeway bridge decking above Atlantic Boulevard, Fremont Avenue, Sixth Street, Garfield Avenue, Del Mar Avenue, New Avenue, Walnut Grove Avenue, San Gabriel Boulevard, and Rosemead Boulevard bridge undercrossings. The work is required to permanently remediate a safety issue in the bridge decking structure.

Metro ExpressLanes staff and Caltrans, along with representatives from CHP, Metro Operations, and Foothill Transit, have been working together since 2016 to prepare for this project. The initial plan was to close the I-10 ExpressLanes within the project limits

with a single 24 hour continuous closure of the ExpressLanes for six full weeks, including both weekdays and weekends. A closure of this magnitude would severely disrupt ExpressLanes service and overall traffic in this area. Caltrans staff understood the concerns and developed an innovative design to minimize the closure periods to ten full weekend closures.

Concerns were also expressed to Caltrans about the timing of the construction project as it spreads across ten weekends. Caltrans has indicated it is preferable to conduct the closures during the summer months when traffic volumes are lower due to school summer vacations.

The ten locations are phased as follows\*\*

- 6/15/2018 – 6/18/2018
  - Phase 1: Atlantic Boulevard (eastbound)
- 6/22/2018 – 6/25/2018
  - Phase 2: Fremont Avenue (eastbound) & Sixth Street (eastbound)
- 6/29/2018 – 7/2/2018
  - Phase 3: Garfield Avenue (eastbound) & Del Mar Avenue (eastbound)
- 7/6/2018 – 7/9/2018
  - Phase 4: New Avenue (eastbound) & Walnut Grove Avenue (eastbound)
- 7/13/2018 – 7/16/2018
  - Phase 5: San Gabriel Boulevard (eastbound) & Rosemead Boulevard (eastbound)
- 7/20/2018 – 7/23/2018
  - Phase 6: Rosemead Boulevard (westbound) & San Gabriel Boulevard (westbound)
- 7/27/2018 – 7/30/2018
  - Phase 7: Walnut Grove Avenue (westbound) & New Avenue (westbound)
- 8/3/2018 – 8/6/2018
  - Phase 8: Del Mar Avenue (westbound) & Garfield Avenue (westbound)
- 8/10/2018 – 8/13/2018
  - Phase 9: Sixth Street (westbound) & Fremont Avenue (westbound)
- 8/17/2018 – 8/20/2018
  - Phase 10: Atlantic Boulevard (westbound)

\*\*Note: Dates are subject to change due to unanticipated situations and/or inclement conditions. If a delay were to occur, notifications would be distributed a week prior to the original closure date.

Barriers will be placed around the construction zone and will follow a Caltrans approved traffic handling plan. The plan will provide signage approximately two miles out from the construction site indicating roadwork ahead. Approximately one mile away, signs will indicate that ExpressLanes End in 1 Mile. Remaining signs and portable arrow boards,

arrows painted on the pavement as well as channelizers will be installed to safely direct drivers out of the ExpressLanes and into the GP lanes prior to the construction zone.

Prior to the construction location, those traveling in the ExpressLanes will be required to merge into the GP lanes. After the construction zone, drivers will be able to re-enter the ExpressLanes.

Since the ExpressLanes toll is a combination of price per mile based on congestion levels and the distance traveled, the length of the tolled segment will be reduced due to the closures.

Similar ExpressLanes closures due to Caltrans bridge decking construction were successfully completed in 2015 on the I-10. Metro ExpressLanes staff will coordinate with Caltrans and other involved parties to ensure seamless communication to the public and efficient completion of work.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Metro will coordinate with Caltrans to prepare the public outreach campaign. Caltrans will be issuing a press release and notifying the public via their regular outlets such as print media and radio while Metro will provide notification of the closure through the following channels:

- Email to all ExpressLanes Customers
- Postings in the ExpressLanes Customer Service Centers
- Closure message on the Dynamic Message Signs
- Latest news section of the metroexpresslanes.net website
- The Source
- go511.com website and phone system
- ExpressLanes social media accounts (Twitter & Facebook)