

Work will begin Monday on the much anticipated project to reconstruct the I-40 interchange at Morgan Road. near Yukon. The \$34 million project, awarded in October to Allen Contracting Inc. of Oklahoma City, will completely reconstruct the interchange and remove the current clover-leaf design of the ramps. The entire project is estimated to take nearly two years to complete.

The new interchange will be configured into what is called a single-point urban interchange, which includes longer on and off ramps at I-40 and a wider Morgan Rd. bridge. The first of its kind in Oklahoma, this new interchange design will improve traffic flow and safety and will allow large volumes of traffic to negotiate the area by using a single set of traffic signals on top of the bridge.

The project will also reconstruct and make improvements to I-40 between the North Canadian River bridge, west of Council Road, and Sara Road.

Motorists can expect I-40 to narrow to two lanes in both directions starting Monday and continuing through March. Morgan Rd. and the I-40 on and off ramps at Morgan Rd. will remain open during the project with only short-term single lane or ramp closures expected periodically in the evenings or on weekends when needed.

To minimize driver inconvenience, ODOT has placed incentives in the contract for early completion of the project.

Daily traffic advisories will be sent out to inform drivers of traffic changes or short-term ramp and lane closures as the project progresses.

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Editors and News Directors: For more information, call the ODOT Media and Public Relations Office at 05-521-6000.)