



Crosstown Drivers: Be Alert to New Lane and Ramp Changes for Monday Commute

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Several changes related to the Crosstown bridge work are scheduled at the I-40/I-35/I-235 (Dallas interchange) starting Sunday night, and will greatly impact Monday morning rush hour:

- Expect various lane closures on eastbound I-40 at the I-35/I-235 interchange, down to one lane of open traffic, from 8 p.m. Sunday to 5 a.m. Monday.
- There will be short-term ramp closures from eastbound I-40 to I-35 and I-235; avoid the area and locate an alternate route such as I-44.

After 5 a.m. Monday, eastbound I-40 traffic will remain narrowed to two through lanes, but the exits for I-35 and I-235 will be shifted to a new configuration until further notice:

- The right lane of I-40 will be an exit only lane for southbound I-35
- Drivers needing northbound I-235 must be in the center lane; the I-235 exit has shifted to the east and will be a separate exit from southbound I-35.

ODOT is encouraging drivers to slow down, use caution driving through the area and allow extra travel time getting to work Monday. The new lane and exit configurations are expected to remain in place until mid-September.

Conditions in the Crosstown corridor are continually changing during this stage of construction, with various paving operations and other work currently underway. General work zone safety tips are extremely important for drivers to practice: put distractions aside and remain alert to signs and message boards.

Ongoing Crosstown work continues to affect travel near downtown Oklahoma City:

- Robinson Ave. closed between S.W. 7th St. and S.W. 11th St. until Fall 2011. Detour is Walker Ave.
- Eastbound I-40 is narrowed slightly between Portland Ave. and I-44 until 2012.
- The northbound I-35 off-ramp to westbound I-40 is open. Crews have closed the dedicated exit lane for construction, but the ramp is open to drivers.

For daily lane closures, visit the ODOT website at www.okladot.state.ok.us, then click Traffic Advisories. Also, follow @okdot on Twitter for timely updates.

Overall, the new Crosstown interstate, estimated at approximately \$670 million, will be 10 lanes between May Ave. and the Dallas interchange and is tracking on schedule for drivers to start using the new highway in mid-2012.

—www.okladot.state.ok.us—

(Editors and News Directors: For more information call the ODOT Media & Public Relations Division at 405-521-6000.)

INFORMATION RELEASE

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