

# I-10 WIDENING

Prince Road to 29th Street

## 2009 Fact Sheet

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The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) continues the work begun in January 2007 on the Interstate 10 Widening project from Prince Road to 29th Street, the largest highway transportation project in southern Arizona history:

### Current Information – Interstate

- The project is two-thirds complete and ahead of schedule.
- The project is currently scheduled to be complete and ramps will be open by December 2009.
- Landscaping work will continue through Spring 2010 with no impact to traffic.
- The bridges south of St. Mary's Road on the east side of I-10 are complete.
- The bridges north of St. Mary's on the west side of I-10 are complete.
- I-10 traffic is now traveling on new concrete pavement.
- The rubberized asphalt paving is scheduled to be complete by October 2009.
- The ramps that are complete on the project remain closed until the completion of the project because, given the current limited space configuration with only two lanes in each direction on the Interstate, it is unsafe for traffic to merge on and off.
- The goal is to minimize impacts to drivers while maintaining safety and the construction schedule.
- There will be one tow truck in the project area from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

### Current Information – Cross Streets

- As the bridge decks are poured and completed, the cross streets under them will be restored to their configuration prior to the start of Interstate construction.
- St. Mary's Road will be the first cross street to be restored to its prior configuration.
- Cross streets will be reconstructed to have new roadway surface, curbs and sidewalks with ramps, but are not being widened beyond their preconstruction configuration.
- Bridges are being built to allow room for future cross street widening by the City of Tucson.
- The cross street reconstruction is scheduled to begin by spring 2009.
- ADOT is working to restore and reconstruct the cross streets in a timely and efficient manner.

### Background Information

The cost of the project is approximately \$200 million and expands 4.5 miles of I-10 between Prince Road and 29th Street. At the community's request, the original 10-year plan was compressed to three years and includes the following:

- Expands I-10 to eight lanes, four in each direction.
- Constructs 16 new bridges/underpasses related to seven cross streets: Grant Road, Speedway Boulevard, St. Mary's Road, Congress Street, Granada Avenue/Cushing Street, 18th Street and 22nd Street.
- One side of the freeway was completed in late May 2008, traffic moved over, and the other side is now being built.
- Interstate remains open to through-traffic during construction.

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Project Hotline: (877) 961-1010 or (520) 327-6444

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### **Traffic Patterns from January – December 2009**

Local traffic between Prince Road and 29th Street travels on the three-lane frontage roads, while through-traffic continues to use two lanes in each direction on the Interstate. Local eastbound traffic exits I-10 at Prince Road and local westbound and northbound traffic exits I-10 and I-19 at 29th Street. With the exception of temporary closures for bridge and roadway reconstruction, all major cross streets in the project area remain open.

- Three-lane frontage roads have 40 and 45 mph speed limits.
- Speed limit is 55 mph on I-10 throughout the construction zone.
- A 7-foot shoulder along the frontage roads facilitates flow of emergency services vehicles.
- Additional emergency pullouts have been added at each of the newly-constructed, but closed, entrance and exit ramps on eastbound I-10 from Prince Road to Speedway Boulevard, and at each bridge on westbound I-10 from St. Mary's Road to Miracle Mile.
- Additional westbound emergency access has been added behind the barriers from St. Mary's Road to Speedway Boulevard, and from Grant Road to Prince Road.

### **Interim Traffic Operations Center (ITOC)**

- State-of-the-art ITOC was constructed for safety, traffic management and real-time information on I-10.
- Approximately 72 cameras stationed throughout project area view freeway and frontage road conditions.
- ITOC is staffed 24/7 to keep public and emergency services informed of traffic conditions.
- ITOC posts traffic messages on message boards to notify drivers of closures or accidents.

### **Business Impact**

- All businesses have normal access to frontage roads and major cross streets.
- ADOT has worked with City and County small business commissions.
- Impacts minimized to the Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase and conventions by working with Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bureau, Tucson Convention Center and City of Tucson.
- An extensive sign program lets travelers know how to access local businesses.

### **Business Outreach**

- Business outreach consultants began assisting businesses prior to construction.
- The business outreach program continues through construction.
- Collaborative partnering effort continues between ADOT, the City and the businesses.
- Project communications include businesses' employees and their customers.

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