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ADOT to launch stimulus-funded I-17 widening between Carefree Highway and Anthem Way (on Friday night)

PHOENIX – Construction of the Arizona Department of Transportation’s first Phoenix area highway improvement project to be funded through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is scheduled to start Friday night (Aug. 7).

The Arizona Department of Transportation says the \$11.2 million I-17 widening project in the North Valley will add a third lane in each direction between Carefree Highway (State Route 74) and Anthem Way.

The project is not limited to the widening work. A much-needed resurfacing of I-17 between Anthem Way and New River Road also will be completed by next summer (2010).

ADOT says work will start with right shoulder resurfacing along I-17 north of Carefree Highway on Friday night. I-17 will be restricted between Carefree Highway and Anthem Way during overnight and early morning hours as follows:

- I-17 narrowed to one lane in both directions from 10 p.m. Friday to 9 a.m. Saturday (Aug. 8) and from 10 p.m. Saturday to 9 a.m. Sunday (Aug. 9).
- I-17 narrowed to one lane in both directions from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday nights (Aug. 9-13).
- I-17 narrowed to one lane in each direction from 10 p.m. to 9 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights (Aug. 14-15).

The highway’s right shoulders will temporarily be used as travel lanes once crews establish the project’s work zone. I-17 will remain open to two lanes in both directions during weekdays, with lane restrictions limited to nights and weekends as needed.

The I-17 widening project between Carefree Highway and Anthem Way is the latest in a series of major projects in recent years to improve traffic flow along the Black Canyon Highway. Current projects to add two new lanes in each direction – one regular and one carpool lane – between Loop 101 and Carefree Highway are targeted for completion this fall.

ADOT is overseeing a total of 41 ARRA highway improvement projects across the state, including five in Maricopa Association of Governments' region. Here is a status update on the four other ADOT projects using ARRA funds in the Phoenix area:

- Interstate 10 widening (Sarival Avenue to Verrado Way): \$21.8 million contract awarded by State Transportation Board on July 17. Construction scheduled to start by September.
- US 60 (Grand Avenue) widening (83rd Avenue to 99th Avenue): Contract award for the \$11.2 million project scheduled for consideration by State Transportation Board on August 14. Construction scheduled to start this fall.
- US 60 (Grand Avenue) widening (99th Avenue to Loop 303): The project is currently advertised. Construction scheduled to start this fall.
- Loop 101 (Beardsley Road Connection): The project is currently advertised. Construction scheduled to start this fall.

Additional information about ADOT's ARRA-funded projects is available at www.azdot.gov/recovery

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