



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91 Project in Corona to Require Full Closure of Eastbound and Westbound 91, Weekend of Feb. 19-22, 2016

Plan ahead, avoid the area, or stay home. The Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) is offering these words of wisdom to motorists in preparation for a weekend full closure of both the eastbound and westbound 91 between the 71 and Interstate 15 in Corona next month.

As part of the 91 Project in Corona, RCTC today launched its **“91 Steer Clear”** public service campaign to remind motorists that the roadway will be fully closed from Friday, Feb. 19 at 9 pm to Monday, Feb. 22 at 4 am.

This 55-hour closure is needed to allow crews to perform three major construction activities:

1. Demolish the west side of the Maple Street Bridge over the 91
2. Install support beams for the new westbound Maple Street flyover ramp bridge
3. Pave the new eastbound 91 alignment near I-15

“By fully closing the roadway, we will be able to consolidate these significant construction efforts into one weekend, rather than multiple weekends or extending this over a month of weeknights,” said RCTC Executive Director Anne Mayer. “Consolidating the work activities within one weekend will reduce the number of closure hours by more than 50 percent. The project’s design-build method allows for flexibility in planning work, such as this weekend closure,” she said.

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Another benefit, Mayer noted, is that the full closure will help ensure the safety of the 91 Project crews and the traveling public by eliminating cars and construction equipment on the road at the same time.

To minimize travel delays and impacts during the closure, RCTC strongly recommends that motorists plan ahead and completely avoid travel on and near the 91 in Corona or stay home. If travel cannot be avoided, motorists can use the 57, 60 and I-10 as alternate routes. Motorists traveling on the 91, 71 or I-15 near the project area during the closure period can expect delays of three to four hours.

During the weekend closure, emergency vehicles will be able to travel on the 91, as needed, to respond to police, fire and medical situations.

"Corona residents can rest assured that police, fire, CHP and ambulance personnel will be fully briefed about the weekend closure and are ready to respond," Mayer said.

A public meeting, focused on local impacts, will be held Saturday, Feb. 6 from 9 am to noon at the Corona Public Library, 650 S. Main Street, Corona. Presentations will be held at 9:30 am, 10:30 am and 11:30 am; the presentation will be the same each time. A webcast option will be available that day at 10:30 am for those who are unable to attend the meeting in person. To participate online, go to www.ustream.tv/channel/Rm9grcU69JR. In addition, a link to a video recording of the meeting presentation will be provided after the meeting.

In case of rainstorms or inclement weather, the Feb. 19-22 closure will be postponed to the next weekend, weather permitting.

Once the weekend construction activities are completed, more work is on the way for the Maple Street area during the coming months. Crews will rebuild the Maple Street bridge and construct the flyover ramp bridge across the 91. Nightly full closures of eastbound 91 likely will be required for about a week following the full weekend closure; additional periodic nighttime closures will occur in the future. Once the flyover ramp bridge at Maple Street is completed this summer, another full closure of the 91 may take place to remove the temporary support beams that will be placed the weekend of Feb. 19-22.

The 91 Project is adding regular lanes, tolled express lanes, auxiliary lanes and direct express connectors from the northbound 15 to the westbound 91 and from the eastbound 91 to the southbound 15. Improvements to interchanges, ramps, lanes and surface streets also will be made along the 91 between the Riverside County/Orange County Line in Corona and Pierce Street in Riverside. The new lanes are expected to open in 2017.

For more information, visit sr91project.info, call the helpline at 877-770-9191 or email sr91project@rctc.org.

91 PROJECT DETOUR/DESVÍO-PROYECTO 91

Eastbound and Westbound 91 Full Closure

Detour, 91 Steer Clear

Friday, February 19, 2016 at 9 pm to Monday, February 22, 2016 at 4 am



91 STEER CLEAR // Frequently Asked Questions



FAST FORWARD

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

#91steerclear

1. What is "91 Steer Clear?"

As part of the 91 Project, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) will conduct a full weekend closure of both the eastbound and westbound 91 between the 71 and I-15 in Corona. Because of the impact that a full closure will have on this heavily traveled roadway, the 91 Project team is urging motorists to "steer clear" of the area during this closure.

2. When will it take place?

The closure will be from Friday, February 19, 2016 at 9 pm to Monday, February 22, 2016 at 4 am.

3. Why is the "91 Steer Clear" closure needed?

The full weekend closure of the 91 will allow crews to perform three major construction activities:

- 1) Demolish the west side of the Maple Street Bridge over the 91;
- 2) Install support beams for the new westbound Maple Street flyover ramp bridge; and
- 3) Pave the new eastbound 91 alignment near I-15

4. What are the benefits of having a full weekend closure?

Fully closing the roadway will allow these construction activities to be consolidated within one weekend and will help ensure the safety of project crews and motorists by eliminating the possibility of conflicts. The weekend closure will result in a significant reduction in overall closure time. Consolidating the work activities within one weekend will reduce the number of closure hours by more than 50 percent.

5. Will a detour be in place during "91 Steer Clear?"

Yes. To minimize major travel delays and impacts during the closure, RCTC strongly recommends that motorists plan ahead, avoid travel in the area or stay home. Motorists traveling on the 91, the 71 or I-15 near the project area during the closure period can expect travel delays of three to four hours. If travel cannot be avoided, motorists can use the 57, 60 and I-10 as alternate routes.

6. What if it rains that weekend?

In case of heavy rainstorms or inclement weather, the closure will be postponed to the next weekend, weather permitting. To verify closure dates, please see the "91 Steer Clear" section of the 91 Project website, sr91project.info. Updates also will be posted to Facebook and Twitter.

7. After that weekend, will all of the work be done in that area?

More work will be occurring in the Maple Street area during the coming months, including reconstructing the Maple Street bridge and building the flyover connector ramp bridge. Crews will require nightly full closures of eastbound 91 for about a week after the weekend closure. During these closures, motorists will be directed to the eastbound 91 Maple Street off-ramp, and then east on Frontage Road to re-enter the 91 at the Maple/Paseo Grande on-ramp. Once the flyover ramp bridge is completed this summer, another full closure of the 91 may be conducted to remove the temporary support beams that will be placed the weekend of February 19-22.

8. Will emergency responders have access during the "91 Steer Clear?"

Yes. During the weekend closure, emergency vehicles will be able to travel on the 91, as needed, to respond to police, fire and medical situations. A briefing is scheduled with all area emergency responders and transit operators to discuss plans for this closure.

9. Will residents near Green River Road be able to use that interchange?

Yes. The Green River Road interchange will remain open to motorists. However, RCTC urges drivers to "steer clear" of this area, if possible.

10. Is there a plan to manage traffic, if there are heavy backups on the 91 west of the 71 and east of I-15?

Contingency plans have been developed, should lengthy traffic delays occur on either side of the 71 and I-15. The CHP will be monitoring traffic backups and diverting traffic to reverse directions, as needed. The 91 Project team is working with the Inland Empire and Orange County divisions of the CHP to plan and execute the "91 Steer Clear."

11. How can I get more information?

Questions may be directed to the "Contact Us/Feedback" page of the website, sr91project.info; the helpline, 877-770-9191; or via email, sr91project@rctc.org.

Alternate Routes, "91 Steer Clear" Weekend Full Closure

