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State of California • Department of Transportation

CALTRANS NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Major Traffic-Interfering Construction Project Coming to Sacramento *Fix 50 project to rehabilitate W/X Viaduct on U.S. Highway 50*

SACRAMENTO - The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) announced details this morning about rehabilitation work that will take place on the elevated section of U.S. Highway 50 in Sacramento south of downtown, between 18th and 24th Streets. This segment is also known locally as the W/X Viaduct. Major traffic-interfering work will begin on May 2, 2014 and continue through June 17 – with a break for Memorial Day Weekend. Caltrans announced a public education campaign, called **Fix50**, to inform the public about the project, including alternate routes and ways to reduce traffic impacts.

Although there are no safety problems with the Viaduct currently, age and heavy use have caused extensive wear and cracking. According to Caltrans District 3 Director, Jody Jones, “the structures, which were built in 1968, need to be completely resurfaced in order to reduce recurring maintenance costs, and increase the life of the concrete decks.” The prime contractor, Myers & Sons Construction of Sacramento, will seal cracks in the existing deck and build a new four-inch deck on top of the existing one, adding another 20 years of freeway use. “The project will also enhance future safety and traffic operations by widening shoulders and installing new joint seals, new concrete barriers and railings, energy-efficient lighting standards, and steel column casings for seismic strengthening,” stated Jones.

Project Schedule: One direction of the Viaduct will be closed at a time for rehabilitation:

- Stage 1 – May 2 – 22, 2014: Eastbound U.S. Highway 50
- Stage 2 – May 28 – June 17, 2014: Westbound U.S. Highway 50

Traffic will be redirected to detours and alternate routes, or those who wish to proceed through the Viaduct will be rerouted to the other side where both directions of traffic will share one side. There will be significant traffic delays on the Viaduct, as well as on other freeways and arteries serving Sacramento.

Motorists coming to and through Sacramento are encouraged to:

- Carpool and take alternate modes of transportation such as walking, biking, bus, or Light Rail
- Use alternate work schedules, when possible, to avoid rush hour
- Telecommute, when feasible
- Patronize local businesses after work to avoid rush hour

Fix50.com is the central source for information about construction details, alternate routes, and project updates. Downtown Sacramento businesses are encouraged to visit the *Open For Business* page (fix50.com/open-for-business) to gain free visibility during construction by submitting an offer/discount. *Open For Business* offers will be promoted on Fix50.com and on Fix 50 social media:

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/Fix50WX>
- **Twitter:** @Fix_50
- **Instagram:** @Fix_50

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