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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Nighttime Closures on Westbound I-80 to Begin in Early August

Plan for Detours

I-80 SMART Corridor (Integrated Corridor Mobility) Project Uses Technology to Help Motorists Make Smart, Safe Driving Decisions on Busy Bay Area Freeway

Oakland – Caltrans will soon install the first in a series of eleven approximately 25-foot-high overhead sign frames that will span the width of the westbound I-80 lanes. In the coming months, the sign frames will be installed between Cutting Boulevard in Richmond and Powell Street in Emeryville, necessitating lane and full westbound freeway closures in the vicinity of the installations.

Travelers are advised of nighttime lane closures and full westbound closures beginning in early August.

Roadway work entails installing large overhead sign frames that will feature new electronic signage. The signage **will be activated in early 2015** as part of a larger network of I-80 SMART Corridor strategies to ease traffic congestion and enhance safety on this heavily travelled corridor between the Bay Bridge Toll Plaza in Alameda County and the Carquinez Bridge in Contra Costa County.

Motorists are advised to expect detours and delays during the nighttime closures.

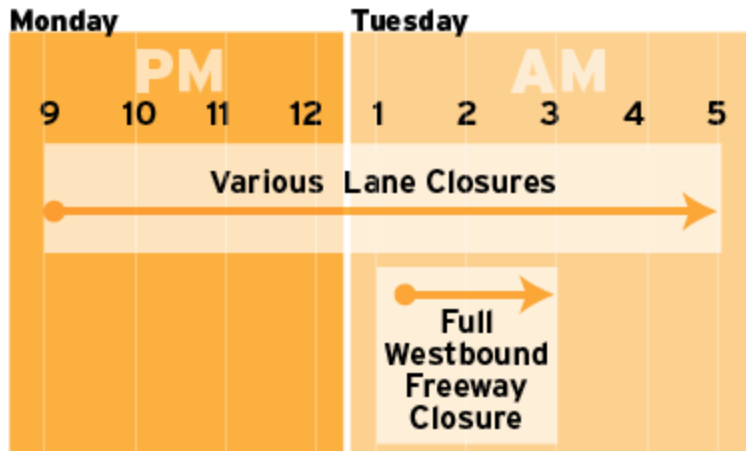
Nighttime Lane Closures:

- Eastbound and westbound lane closures of I-80 will continue on Sundays through Thursdays, beginning at 9 p.m. and ending at 5 a.m.
- **Beginning Tuesday, August 5: To facilitate sign frame installation, portions of westbound I-80 will be closed from 1 a.m. to 3 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.** The first installation will occur at Carlson Boulevard in Richmond. During this time, westbound lanes will be closed to traffic in the vicinity of the installation, and motorists will be detoured to a local frontage road.

Every Tuesday and Thursday Continuing Until October:

- Caltrans will continue to implement closures on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9 p.m. the previous evening – 5 a.m. (lane closures) and 1 a.m. – 3 a.m. (full closures) on portions of westbound I-80 until all eleven sign frames have been installed. The second closure and sign frame installation will occur at Cutting Boulevard in Richmond.

Caltrans anticipates that the closures will continue through October 2014. However, this work is weather-dependent, and the schedule is subject to change.



Illustrated schedule of westbound freeway and lane closures on Mondays and Tuesdays. The same schedule applies to Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Other Motorist Information:

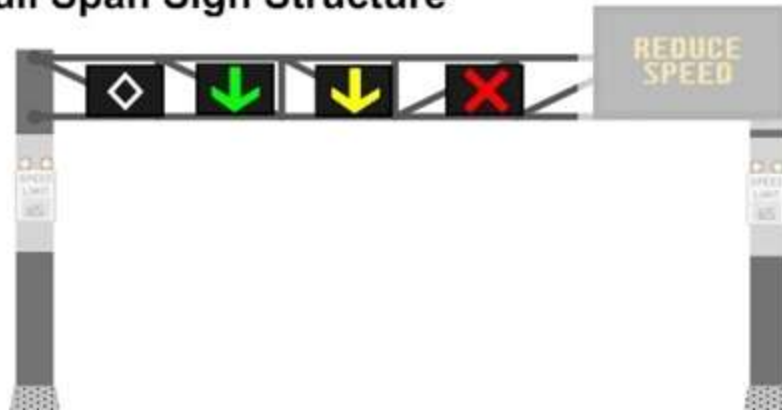
- Changeable message signs will be posted at key locations along the corridor notifying motorists of these closures.
- Motorists are urged to "**slow for the cone zone**" and drive with caution. Crews on foot will be working close to the active roadway during these closures.
- **Once activated in 2015**, the installed overhead signs will feature lane use signs, variable message signs and variable speed signs, which will provide motorists with real-time information about traffic conditions ahead. These signs, along with other elements of the I-80 SMART Corridor Project, will become operational after extensive testing. The signs will not be illuminated when they are first installed.

With average daily traffic reaching 290,000 vehicles, the I-80 corridor is one of the busiest freeways in the Bay Area. The I-80 SMART Corridor Project, representing one of the most extensive Intelligent Transportation Systems in the state, is implementing technological solutions to enhance motorist safety, reduce congestion and improve travel time on I-80 between the Bay Bridge and Carquinez Bridge. Real-time traffic information, such as variable speed signs and blocked lane signs, will allow drivers to make informed decisions in the event of an incident. Additional improvements include real-time ramp metering on 44 on-ramps to reduce merging conflicts and manage traffic volumes on I-80 and its arterials. Once activated in 2015, these Adaptive Ramp Meters will contribute to optimized roadway operations and will be integrated with the Active Traffic Management system to provide real-time information to motorists on the I-80 corridor.

The \$80 million project is funded by the Corridor Mobility Improvement Account (CMIA) created by State Proposition 1B (approved by Californians in 2006 for transportation needs), the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's Measure J half-cent sales tax and the Alameda County Transportation Commission's Measure B half-cent sales tax.

Please visit www.80smartcorridor.org for additional information, or call 1-800-747-5031. Follow [#80SMART](https://twitter.com/80SMART) on Twitter for project updates.

Full Span Sign Structure



Conceptual rendering of sign frame



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