Project overview

Long awaited construction on the Cordes Junction interchange with Interstate 17 will begin in early August. Anticipated to last approximately two years, the project will occur in four phases. Each phase has been designed to minimize the impact to the local community and the traveling public and maximize cost-effective procedures.

Built in the early 1960s, the Cordes Junction traffic interchange now serves over 13,000 vehicles on an average day. In addition there are over 27,000 vehicles that travel on I-17 at the junction of State Route 69 and ADOT predicts this volume of traffic will more than double by 2020.

The current interchange design mixes local and through traffic, causing congestion and delays. The outdated on ramps and off ramps will be removed and new ramps will be built to carry Prescott bound traffic over I-17. High speed traffic headed to Prescott will be separated from local traffic driving at slower speeds. Additionally, new bridges on I-17 over Big Bug Creek and a new interchange to the north will be constructed. Two new roundabouts will be also be constructed to improve safety and traffic flow.

What to expect

- Motorists will drive on well-marked temporary detours. Speeds through the construction zone will be reduced, so plan for extra time to travel the area.
- Access to businesses will be maintained throughout construction.
- The construction team will coordinate closely with businesses and keep the traveling public and local community informed as construction progresses. Hundreds of workers will come together to make this improvement on ADOT’s behalf and for the community and traveling public.

The project will be completed in four phases:

Phase 1 (August 2011 – October 2011)

- No closures are anticipated during Phase 1. However, night time lane restrictions may occur to conduct shoulder work.
- Temporary detours will be constructed on SR 69 and median crossovers on I-17. These features will be used in Phase 2.
- Areas of I-17 and SR 69 will be widened to allow construction crews working space to safely build the new bridges and roadway alignments.

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Phase 2 (October 2011 – October 2012)
- Traffic will be rerouted at SR 69 to southbound I-17 using temporary detours and I-17 median crossovers built in Phase 1.
- Traffic on I-17 will be restricted at times. Two lanes of traffic will be maintained in each direction.
- New roadway lighting will be installed.
- The map and information below highlights areas impacted by Phase 2 constructions activities.
  - New bridges constructed on SR 69
  - New roundabout constructed
  - New Arcosanti Road constructed
  - Copper Star Road realigned

  - New I-17 interchange constructed north of existing interchange

  - Stagecoach Trail realigned
  - Intersection realigned

  - Bridges and ramps built over I-17 to SR 69

  - Part of new northbound Big Bug Bridge on I-17 constructed

Phase 3 (May 2012 – January 2013)
- Complete Big Bug Bridge on I-17.
- Construct east roundabout (at Cordes Lakes Road).
- Demolish existing ramps and construct new ramps.
- Reconstruct I-17 south of the existing interchange.
- Open new roadway facilities and features to the public as soon as they become available during this phase.

Phase 4 (March 2013 – June 2013)
- Apply layer of rubberized asphalt and final striping on I-17 and SR 69.
- There is a possibility that unscheduled closures or restrictions may occur due to weather and other unforeseen circumstances.

Slow down in the work zone
Drivers are reminded to slow down, proceed through the work zone with caution, and be alert for construction equipment and personnel.

Stay informed
For more information about this project, please contact Senior Community Relations Officer Tricia Lewis at 928.606.2420 or tlewis@azdot.gov. Local media should contact the ADOT Public Information Office at news@azdot.gov or 1.800.949.8057.

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