



*For more information, contact
Andrew Gates at 314-453-1808 or 314-223-8003.*

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MoDOT schedules weekend I-70 closure to remove bridge *(Express lanes will close for two months)*

ST. LOUIS – The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and its contractor Millstone Bangert Inc, will close Interstate 70 the weekend of October 7-10 to remove the Howard and 9th Street bridge over I-70.

MoDOT currently plans to close all lanes of I-70, in both directions, between 10th Street and the Poplar Street Bridge at 8 p.m. Friday, October 7. The interstate will reopen by 5 a.m. Monday, October 10. During this closure, the ramps from the Poplar Street Bridge to I-70 and Memorial Drive will be closed. The work is being done as part of constructing the New Mississippi River Bridge to relocate I-70 across the Mississippi River.

The department will close the Howard and 9th Street bridge on October 7. Crews will also close the I-70 express lanes for two months as part of construction.

Drivers should use I-64 and I-170 to detour around the closure, if possible.

Local traffic will be able to get into St. Louis City, but since the local detour involves several miles of city streets and about a dozen traffic signals, Mississippi River Bridge officials encourage avoiding the location during the closure, if possible.

“About 70,000 vehicles use this stretch of I-70 daily. If people don’t use alternate routes to travel to downtown, the detour for the I-70 work, especially westbound I-70, could take a long time,” said Gregory Horn, P.E., project director for the Mississippi River Bridge project. “If possible, people should use I-64 and I-170 to get around the closure downtown.”

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