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MoDOT closes I-70 this weekend to remove Madison Street bridge

ST. LOUIS – The Missouri Department of Transportation, and its contractor Fred Weber, Inc., has confirmed that it will close Interstate 70 this weekend to knock down the Madison Street bridge over the interstate.

The department will close the interstate, and all ramps, between the Poplar Street Bridge and St. Louis Avenue. **This work is not weather-dependent.**

MoDOT will start reducing lanes and closing ramps on I-70 starting at 7 p.m. Friday, March 5, and will completely close the interstate at 8 p.m. The interstate and ramps will be completely open by 5 a.m. Monday, March 8.

To get around the interstate closure, eastbound drivers must use a combination of 10th and 11th Streets, Cole Street, South Broadway Street, Chestnut Street and Memorial Drive. Westbound drivers will use a combination of Memorial Drive, Washington Avenue, North Broadway, North Market and 10th Street. The detour around the work will be marked. However, since much of the detour is on roads with signals, drivers should make every effort to avoid the area, if possible, using I-70 between I-170 and I-64 for local traffic only.

“During the last closure, traffic flowed well through the detour, because people used other routes to get into downtown,” said Gregory Horn, P.E., project director for the Mississippi River Bridge project. “We need people to do the same thing during this weekend’s closure. For example, people can use the Chain of Rocks Bridge on I-270 or the Jefferson Barracks Bridge on I-255 to get between Missouri and Illinois, use I-270 to get around St. Louis County, or use I-64 to get into downtown St. Louis.”

An estimated 70,000 vehicles travel on I-70 through downtown St. Louis each weekend.

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