



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

91 weekend closure crews making excellent progress; motorists urged to continue to “steer clear;” all lanes to open by 4 am

With about 36 hours into the 55-hour weekend full closure of the 91 in Corona, work is on schedule and traffic conditions are better than expected, the Riverside County Transportation Commission announced.

“The progress of our crews has been phenomenal,” said RCTC Executive Director Anne Mayer. “All of our efforts are on schedule or ahead of schedule, thanks to the hard working crews and to the people who followed our advice to steer clear of the area,” she said.

Mayer reminded motorists to continue to plan ahead, avoid the area and stay home.

“Our “91 Steer Clear” efforts to deter people from the area definitely paid off yesterday, so thank you to those motorists who followed our advice,” Mayer said. “Today, we need motorists to do the same. We do not want motorists to be complacent and think, ‘Oh, traffic wasn’t bad yesterday, so let’s head toward Corona.’ This is exactly what we don’t want to happen,” she said.

All lanes on eastbound and westbound 91 will reopen on Monday at 4 am as scheduled. Once the roadway reopens, the lane configuration will have changed, so motorists are urged to keep their eyes on the road and be cautious through these new areas.

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Three separate, simultaneous construction operations have been under way since Friday at 9 pm during the full closure of the 91 between the 71 and I-15. As of this morning:

- Crews have completed 90% of the demolition of the west half of the bridge, removing and hauling away about 2,000 tons of concrete. Today, crews will focus on removal of the north abutment, which is the final portion of the structure.
- All 29 of the Super Beams over the westbound lanes and all 19 of the Super Beams over the eastbound lanes have been placed. These Super Beams measure 120' in length and 3' in width and weigh approximately 22 tons each. Crews also placed all of the smaller beams on top of the Super Beams and are setting the stringers (longitudinal supports) between the bridge sections and continuing to build the wooden framework for the new structure.
- Paving at the eastern end of the project limits near I-15 is on schedule. Crews finished placing the aggregate subbase last night. Paving began at about 8 am today and is likely to be complete by late afternoon, with striping planned for this evening.

Project workers have been using the closure of the roadway to perform other work, including paving the eastbound Main Street off-ramp, overlaying the surface of the bridge deck near Grand Boulevard, repairing potholes, sweeping the roadway and picking up debris. Twelve maintenance trucks and three sweeper trucks have been working on the roadway.

Mayer offered the following tips for the remainder of the closure:

- Detour routes remain the 57, 60, 10, 210, 605 and 215, and motorists can check traffic conditions on IE511.org or download the IE511 mobile app. Waze and other mapping applications, plus Caltrans changeable message signs are available view traffic conditions and get travel time estimates.
- Traffic was heaviest yesterday on the 57. A hockey game will be held tonight, so hockey fans should allow extra time to get to and from the Honda Center.
- Last night, crews posted additional signage along Green River, Serfas Club, Palisades, Paseo Grande and Sixth Street to help guide motorists through the area.

- Metrolink is continuing its extra trains and “2 for the price of 1” promotion today. Ridership on regularly scheduled trains passing through Corona showed a 22 percent increase over the same Saturday a year ago with nearly 2,000 boardings yesterday. Visit metrolinktrains.com.
- Follow the weekend progress via Facebook, Twitter and Instagram at [sr91project](https://www.facebook.com/sr91project) and watch the video feed of the work near Maple Street. RCTC will be preparing a time-lapse video of the work to share with the public.
- Residents can continue to explore the list of 55 things to do in Corona during the 55-hour closure. From zip-lining to hiking to checking out demonstration gardens at Corona City Hall, the list offers plenty of suggestions for spending the final 19 hours of the weekend’s closure. Residents also can take part in the City of Corona “Staycation” social media photo contest; for information, visit the 91 Steer Clear webpage at sr91project.info.
- Remember to visit local businesses during the rest of the weekend closure. Please visit the “Shop 91-Shop Local” section of the website to support area businesses.

The Riverside County Transportation Commission’s 91 Project is adding regular lanes, tolled express lanes, auxiliary lanes and direct express connectors from the northbound 15 to the westbound 91 and from the eastbound 91 to the southbound 15. Improvements to interchanges, ramps, lanes and surface streets also will be made along the 91 between the Riverside County/Orange County Line in Corona and Pierce Street in Riverside. The new lanes are expected to open in 2017.

For more information, visit sr91project.info, call the helpline at 877-770-9191 or email sr91project@rctc.org.

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