



# PRESS RELEASE

**Date/Time:** February 19, 2016 – 9 pm  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### “91 Steer Clear” weekend closure is under way Media Briefings set for Saturday, Sunday, 10 a.m.

It’s 9 pm, and construction crews have begun placing barricades and cones, closing ramps and coordinating with emergency responders to officially kickoff the weekend full closure of the eastbound and westbound 91 in Corona.

The section of the 91 between the 71 and Interstate 15 will be closed from tonight at 9 pm to Monday at 4 am. All lanes will reopen by 4 am on Monday.

The Riverside County Transportation Commission will hold on-site media briefings on Saturday and Sunday at 10 am at the southwest corner of Frontage Road and Via Santiago, which is adjacent to the Maple Street work activity.

The 55-hour weekend closure will enhance safety by removing cars from the roadway, where crews will be working. Three separate, simultaneous, construction operations will be performed. About 200 crew members will be working 12-hour shifts to complete the work.

Key construction activities for each of these operations include:

DEMOLITION OF MAPLE STREET BRIDGE (WEST HALF OF BRIDGE)
Cutting the top bridge deck to prepare for demolition
Placing dirt blanket over eastbound and westbound lanes
Demolition of eastbound super-structure
Demolition of westbound super-structure
Removal of debris (ongoing)
Demolition of center section of bridge
Demolition of westbound bridge abutment
Demolition of eastbound bridge abutment
Roadway preparation/clean-up/reopen 91 lanes

<b>INSTALLATION OF SUPPORT BEAMS FOR NEW WESTBOUND MAPLE STREET ON-RAMP FLYOVER BRIDGE</b>
Mobilize cranes (two 265-ton cranes, one 120-ton crane, two 80-ton cranes) and transport trucks into closure area
Set 29 Super Beams (I-beams measuring 120' x 3") over westbound lanes
Set smaller beams on top of Super Beams over westbound lanes
Set stringers (longitudinal supports) between bridge sections over westbound lanes
Set 19 Super Beams over eastbound lanes
Set smaller beams on top of Super Beams over eastbound lanes
Set stringers between bridge sections over eastbound lanes

Work over the eastbound lanes likely will continue at night, Feb. 22-27, from 10 pm to 5 am, due to the size of the operation. This work will require nightly closures of the eastbound lanes. Motorists can exit the 91 at Maple Street and reenter at Paseo Grande.

<b>TIE-IN PAVEMENT ON EASTBOUND 91 NEAR I-15</b>
Demolish and remove existing pavement
Place embankment material
Place aggregate subbase
Place asphalt concrete
Place concrete paving
Pavement curing

Crews also will use the closure time to complete work on selected ramps and bridges, repair potholes, paint K-rail, clean up trash, and investigate rehabilitation needs for pavement throughout the 91 Project limits.

An Incident Command Center is housed at the City of Corona's Traffic Management Center, where staff can view and respond to real-time traffic conditions and make adjustments to signals, dispatch law enforcement and send tow trucks. First responders will have full access to the closed routes to respond to traffic, medical or domestic emergencies. Extra units will be on hand during the weekend and stationed strategically in Corona and in neighboring areas. Eight extra Freeway Service Patrol vehicles will be operating this weekend to offer free roadside help to stranded motorists.

No pedestrians, cyclists or other members of the public will be allowed to access this closed section of roadway. Trespassers on the 91 right of way, which includes lanes, on-ramps, off-ramps and embankments, will be cited by law enforcement personnel.

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Motorists are urged to avoid the 91, the 71 and I-15 near Corona. Other options are the 57, 60, 10, 210, 215, or 605. Drivers who use the 91, 71 or I-15 may encounter delays of three to four hours. Travelers are reminded that the Orange County eastbound 91 Express Lanes and the 241-North to 91-East connector will be closed for the weekend and the McKinley westbound on-ramp is closed.

Another travel option is Metrolink, which has partnered with RCTC to double the number of trains on the 91 Line and Inland Empire Orange County Line and to offer “Buy One, Get One” fares on Feb. 20 and 21. Visit [metrolinktrains.com](http://metrolinktrains.com) for information.

Motorists can monitor traffic conditions by observing Caltrans overhead changeable message signs, which will be updated throughout the weekend. Other updates will be posted to social media, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram; search “sr91project” and the project website, [sr91project.info](http://sr91project.info). Various mapping applications are available to view traffic conditions and obtain travel time estimates, such as IE511.org or mobile apps for IE511, Waze and other mapping tools.

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](http://sr91project.info), call the helpline at 877-770-9191 or email [sr91project@rctc.org](mailto:sr91project@rctc.org).

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