



Bill Richardson
Governor

Rhonda Faught
Transportation Secretary

February 20, 2006

****TRAFFIC ALERT****

**EASTBOUND I-40 SHIFTS TO THE NORTH AS CREWS
CONSTRUCT NEW HIGHWAY LANES**

Albuquerque, N.M. – Eastbound Interstate 40 traffic will temporarily shift into the westbound lanes between Unser Boulevard and Coors Boulevard on Tuesday morning.

The eastbound I-40 lanes will cross north over the interstate – traveling parallel to westbound traffic – while crews build new eastbound lanes in the I-40/Coors Interchange Project.

Drivers headed east on I-40 who want to exit at southbound Coors Boulevard should take the new permanent ramp located between Unser Boulevard and Coors Boulevard.

Because of the traffic shift, the northbound and southbound Coors Boulevard on-ramps to eastbound I-40 will also shift to the north the night of Tuesday, Feb. 21.

The following road closures will be necessary:

- All lanes of eastbound I-40 between Unser Boulevard and Coors Boulevard will be closed between 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, and 6 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21. The Unser Boulevard on-ramps to eastbound I-40 will also be closed.

Detour: Drivers should travel south on Unser Boulevard to Bluewater Road and east on Bluewater Road to northbound Coors Boulevard back to I-40.

- The southbound Coors Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound I-40 will be closed from 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 20, to 6 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Detour: Motorists should travel south on Coors Boulevard to Iliff Road, west on Iliff Road to south Estancia Road and east on Hanover Road back to northbound Coors and eastbound I-40.

- The northbound and southbound Coors Boulevard on-ramp to eastbound I-40 will be closed overnight from 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21, to 6 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22.

Detour: Motorists should travel south on Coors Boulevard to Bluewater Road and west on Bluewater Road to northbound Unser Boulevard back to I-40.

Albuquerque contractor Twin Mountain Construction is completing the work on the interchange. The project is part of Governor Richardson's Investment Partnership (GRIP), a \$1.6 billion transportation package that is improving New Mexico's transportation systems and highways while creating local jobs.

For more information on construction-related road closures or GRIP, visit www.nmgrip.com. Video and photo opportunities of the traffic switch are possible. For more information, call Marissa Stone at (505) 490-0492 or (505) 827-5163.