

#### **CONSTRUCTION ALERT**

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# NEW DIRECT CONNECTOR FROM WESTBOUND IH 820 TO SOUTHBOUND I-35W TO CREATE MAJOR TRAFFIC SHIFT

Motorists will now exit to the right to access I-35W

**FORT WORTH, Texas** – The opening of a new direct connector from westbound IH 820 to southbound I-35W on **Saturday, January 23, 2016** will result in a <u>major traffic switch</u> for motorists. Instead of exiting to the left, motorists will now exit to the <u>right</u> to continue onto I-35W south. The existing direct connector from westbound IH 820 to southbound I-35W will be closed.

"The opening of this new direct connector represents a major milestone in the life of this project," said Heather DeLapp, Regional Public Relations Manager, North Tarrant Infrastructure. "However, with this opening comes a significant change in traffic configuration. Past experience tells us that drivers don't always pay close attention to traffic signs, or are unfamiliar with the area and end up making lane changes at the last minute. We strongly encourage everyone to pay close attention to the posted signage, stay alert to other drivers and slow down in this area."

This opening will result in the following associated closures:

### Friday, January 22 at 9 p.m. through Saturday, January 23 at 10 a.m.:

- Alternating lanes of the westbound IH 820 general purpose lanes from Beach Street to I-35W.
- The right lane of the westbound IH 820 TEXpress lanes from Beach Street to I-35W.
- The off-ramp from westbound IH 820 to Riverside Drive. Traffic will be redirected to the previous exit at Haltom Road.

#### Saturday, January 23 at 9 p.m. through Sunday, January 24 at 10 a.m.:

- The off-ramp from westbound IH 820 to Riverside Drive. Traffic will be redirected to the previous exit at Haltom Road.
- Alternating lanes of the westbound IH 820 general purpose lanes from Beach Street to I-35W.
- The direct connector from westbound IH 820 to southbound I-35W. Traffic will be redirected to FM 156.
- The left lane of southbound I-35W at the I-35W/IH 820 interchange.

The new direct connector will open Sunday, January 24 at 10 a.m.

This work is part of the \$1.4 billion North Tarrant Express 35W project. This includes a section that is currently ranked number six on the state's most congested roadway list along 6.5 miles of I-35W from north of IH 30 to north of IH 820 including the I-35W/IH 820 interchange in Fort Worth. The project includes the reconstruction of main lanes and the addition of TEXpress managed lanes.

Drivers are encouraged to "Know Before They Go," and visit <a href="www.northtarrantexpress.com">www.northtarrantexpress.com</a> for upcoming closures. To view detour maps, please visit the <a href="Alternate Route Map">Alternate Route Map</a> page of our website. Also, as our lane closures are updated frequently, please visit the <a href="Lane Closures">Lane Closures</a> page on our website daily for the most current information. Closures are subject to weather conditions, and construction activities may be postponed if necessary.

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# NEW DIRECT CONNECTOR FROM WESTBOUND I-820 TO SOUTHBOUND I-35W RAMP WILL NOW BE A RIGHT-HAND EXIT

### Beginning Saturday, January 23



The existing direct connector from westbound I-820 to southbound I-35W will be closed.

A new direct connector from westbound I-820 to southbound I-35W will open.

This new direct connector will be a **right-hand** exit.