

Fort Worth

JULY 23, 2015

I-35W in north Fort Worth will be a mess this weekend



More road closures are coming to Meacham Boulevard, Interstate 35W and Loop 820 in north Fort Worth this weekend. | **Rodger Mallison** - Star-Telegram archives

BY LEE WILLIAMS

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FORT WORTH — Contractors working on the Interstate 35W reconstruction project are taking advantage of the rain-free weather to get work done, which is good for the future but will cause traffic snarls for the next few days in north Fort Worth.

What's closed

9 .m. Friday through 10 a..m. Saturday

- All eastbound and westbound lanes of Meacham Boulevard at I-35W will be closed. Eastbound traffic will be directed to 28th Street and westbound traffic will be directed to Mark IV Parkway.
- The exit ramp from northbound I-35W to Meacham will also be closed.

5 a.m. Saturday through Aug. 8

- All southbound lanes of the I-35W frontage road will be closed from Dewey Street to 28th Street. Traffic will be directed to Deen Road.
- The exit ramp from southbound I-35W to 28th Street will be closed and traffic will be directed to Northside Drive/Yucca Avenue exit.

9 p.m. Saturday through 10 a.m. Sunday

- All eastbound lanes of Loop 820 will be closed west of I-35W and traffic will be directed to Meacham Boulevard.
- The direct connectors from northbound and southbound I-35W to eastbound 820 will also be closed and traffic will be directed to Meacham Boulevard.

9 p.m. Sunday to 5 a.m. Monday

- All northbound lanes of I-35W will be closed north of Meacham Boulevard.
- The direct connector from northbound I-35W to eastbound and westbound Loop 820 will be closed.
- The on-ramp from McMillan Parkway to northbound I-35W will be closed and traffic will be directed to U.S. 377.
- The on-ramp from northbound I-35W to the eastbound Loop 820 TEXpress lanes will be closed and traffic will be directed to the next on-ramp at U.S. 377.

Alternate routes

Your best bet is to avoid I-35W during the work times, but really, it's pretty much a mess from downtown Fort Worth to the U.S. 287 cutoff in north Fort Worth.

Other possible routes include using Main Street out of downtown Fort Worth through the Stockyards to Loop 820.

Beach Street, Sylvania Avenue and Riverside Drive are viable options, especially if you're wanting access to areas just north of Loop 820.

For more information, go to www.northtarrantexpress.com, where you can view an Alternate Route Map. The closings are subject to weather conditions, but the forecast calls for sunny skies and hot weather for the foreseeable future.

The project

The North Tarrant Express I-35W project is a \$1.4 billion effort to modernize the corridor from I-30 near downtown Fort Worth to just north of the U.S. 287 near Heritage Trace Parkway. The stretch of freeway is one of the most congested in Texas.

The project, which will improve the main lanes and add toll lanes, is scheduled to be completed in 2018.

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