



BE AWARE, PREPARE & SHARE

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: Why must the 91 Express Lanes be repaved?

A: The lanes must be repaved now because the pavement lifecycle has expired. This is the first major repaving of the 91 Express Lanes since they opened more than 20 years ago. The project ensures the lanes will be safe and functional for years to come.

Q: Why must repaving occur at this time?

A: Repaving must be done now because the pavement lifecycle has expired. OCTA is responsible for maintaining safety and up-keeping operations, as well as managing costs. To the extent possible, OCTA has maintained the pavement over the years. However, sealing, patching and other maintenance efforts are no longer sufficient or sustainable. It's time for the lanes to be repaved. The project must also occur now because paving work is weather-sensitive. The work must be completed before lower temperatures and/or rainfall cause otherwise avoidable delays and added costs. Lastly, the project must be completed so that it promptly connects into Riverside County's project and thereby improves the 91 corridor on both sides of the county line.

Q: Will the entire 91 Freeway be closed during construction?

A: No. During weekend paving work, most of the 91 Freeway will be open. Only one direction of the 91 Express Lanes and limited segments of the #1 general-purpose (the "fast lane") are closed at a time. And the direction where no work is taking place will be entirely open. For the closure schedule, go to octa.net/91WeekendShift.

Q: Why isn't the work taking place exclusively at night?

A: It would take one year to complete this project if it was done exclusively at night. Repaving the 91 Express Lanes over 10 weekends maximizes productivity, reduces the overall construction duration and is more cost effective.

Q: Why must the #1 general-purpose lane be closed?

A: Safety is the number one priority for this project. Limited sections of the #1 general-purpose lane must close to assure the safety of construction crews and motorists alike, as the 91 Freeway will remain open during the weekend work. Additionally, the construction contractor needs space to accommodate major construction equipment, machinery and trucks required to complete the project.

Q: Are there alternate routes?

A: Yes. Motorists travelling on the weekends, especially regional commuters, are strongly encouraged to avoid the project area, if possible. When construction is taking place in the eastbound direction, consider taking the 57, 60 or 10. When construction is taking place in the westbound direction, alternate routes to avoid the construction zone may be the 15, the 71 or the 241 Toll Road. As always, plan your commute by checking your preferred real-time traffic and navigation sources. This will help you bypass delays and reduce congestion for local project corridor communities, residents and businesses.

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Q: Are there on- or off-ramp closures or city street detours?

A: No ramp closures or city street detours are required.

Q: How long are expected delays?

A: Traffic estimates indicate peak delays of about 1 hour and 15 minutes. Motorists are encouraged to plan ahead because travel times could double. However, extensive public communication efforts are underway to encourage motorists to avoid the area when possible to help reduce traffic volumes and minimize delays. The public is being asked to help share the word about The 91 Weekend Shift so motorists know to steer clear of the project area and thereby improve travel times.

Q: What is being done to alert the public about this project?

A: A significant public communication effort – called The 91 Weekend Shift – has been underway since early summer 2016. Efforts include regional radio advertising, digital freeway sign notifications, news media announcements, social media posts and sharing, postcard mailers to area residents and businesses, door-to-door flyer canvassing, e-blasts to community stakeholders, communication with cities and partner agencies, and much more. Stay informed by signing up here or through octa.net/91WeekendShift. And help family, friends, customers, teammates and out-of-town guests avoid “The 91 Weekend Shift” by spreading the word via email and on social media platforms.

Q: Has there been coordination with other freeway projects?

A: Yes. OCTA in partnership with Caltrans District 12 has been and is working with other transportation agencies and community partners to facilitate communication and coordination across projects to optimize productivity, minimize construction work conflicts and reduce impacts as much as possible.

As of August 31, 2016



91WeekendShift