



## Monday brings major changes for drivers on Tulsa's Inner Dispersal Loop

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Drivers in downtown Tulsa will face major changes Monday morning when *all* westbound and southbound lanes of the north and west legs of the Inner Dispersal Loop are closed for a stimulus-funded rehabilitation project.

The closure, which is expected to last through the end of the year but will be followed by others, includes portions of the highway signed as westbound I-244/US-412 and eastbound US-64/SH-51. The south and east legs of the IDL will remain open in all directions.

Drivers should avoid the area. If necessary, drivers can use the south and east legs as detour routes, but should allow extra travel time because of anticipated traffic delays.

A simple way for drivers to remember which lanes are closed during the current phase is that they can drive clockwise on the entire IDL, but counterclockwise travel will be limited.

To assist drivers, real-time work zone information is posted on nearly 40 message boards both on and near the IDL, and more than 20 traffic sensors are set up to trigger immediate messages about traffic delays or stops. Drivers should allow extra time for travel during the entire project, and use extreme caution in the detour areas.

After the lanes are closed by 6 a.m. Monday, the contractor will begin setting up construction equipment. Road work is expected to begin mid-week. The contractor for the project is a Tulsa-based joint venture between Manhattan Road & Bridge Co. and Sherwood Construction Co., Inc.

This is the second of a three-phase, \$75 million rehabilitation of the north and west legs of the IDL. The next phase will be improvements on the eastbound lanes of the north and west legs.

The entire project includes rehabilitation of nearly six miles of highway and 44 bridge decks on the north and west legs of the IDL. It is the single-largest project ever awarded by the Oklahoma Department of Transportation and is scheduled for completion in early 2011. However, incentives are in place to expedite the work.

Information on the IDL project, including a detour map, can be found on ODOT's website, [www.okladot.state.ok.us](http://www.okladot.state.ok.us). Web cams showing current conditions and daily traffic advisories are also available on the web site to assist drivers when selecting routes.

### (Editors and News Directors:

**For the safety of your crews and ours, please call the ODOT Media and Public Relations office PRIOR TO ANY VISIT to the closed workzones on the IDL to coordinate parking, safe site areas and if you will need safety gear other than your standard safety vests. Without this coordination prior to your visit, you may be putting crews in harms way or cause unnecessary delays to the project. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.)**

--[www.okladot.state.ok.us](http://www.okladot.state.ok.us)--

**INFORMATION RELEASE**

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