



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

Date: Friday, September 7, 2012
District: 6 - Fresno
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CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ACTIVITY ON INTERSTATE-5 NEAR BUTTONWILLOW TO RESUME PUBLIC SHOULD EXPECT DELAYS

WHAT: CONSTRUCTION LANE-CLOSURES AND EXTENDED DELAYS FOR COMMUTERS/TRAVELERS ON INTERSTATE-5

WHEN: BEGINNING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, INTERMITTENTLY THROUGH OCTOBER

WHERE: ON INTERSTATE-5 (NORTH & SOUTHBOUND) NEAR BAKERSFIELD, IN BUTTONWILLOW, KERN COUNTY.

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) in cooperation with Griffith Company announces the Lane Reconstruction Project on Interstate-5 (I-5) near Bakersfield, in Buttonwillow, will resume construction activities and install “soft” lane-closures, utilizing Orange Construction Cones in lieu of concrete-railing, to complete the ongoing rehabilitation project this Fall.

In order to safely complete this project, all traffic on I-5 will be reduced to one (1) lane in each direction near Buttonwillow. Motorists should expect long delays on I-5 within the project limits (from 2-miles south of 7th Standard Road to south of State Route (SR) 58, near the SR119 and SR43 junctions).

Construction activities and associated lane-closures will remain in-place through October. If possible, motorists should avoid traveling through these areas on Fridays and Sundays between 2:00pm & 8:00pm to avoid higher levels of congestion and longer delays.

Changeable Message Signage (CMS), Highway Advisory Radios (HAR) and other communicative devices are in-place along Interstate 5 and advising motorists of alternate routes and estimated delay times. Caltrans thanks the residents, businesses and commuters for their patience during these construction projects.

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DETOURS:

Southbound I-5 Traffic-

- At the I-5/SR41 junction (near Kettleman City) take SR41 South, to SR33 South, to SR166 East and onto I-5.
- Motorists from the San Francisco Bay Area traveling to and from Los Angeles are urged to avoid I-5 altogether north of Buttonwillow by taking U.S. 101 to Los Angeles or by taking I-580, I-205, and SR120 to Manteca to then SR99 to I-5.
- Motorists from Sacramento and Stockton traveling to and from Los Angeles are urged to take SR99 instead of I-5.

Northbound I-5 Traffic-

- At the I-5/ SR99 junction (near Grapevine) take SR99 North, to SR46 West, to I-5.

Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) Tow Response Vehicles will be patrolling the closure area during high traffic periods to provide help to stranded motorists and remove traffic accidents in order to keep traffic moving. This service is *absolutely free of charge!*

Live traffic information is available to motorists from numerous online sources such as Google Maps, Yahoo Maps, and Mapquest. It is highly recommended that motorists check for the latest traffic information before beginning their trips and also during stops by using their smart phones.

For the next two (2) months, motorists should expect delays in this area and are encouraged to use alternate routes whenever possible.

The travelling public is asked to “**Slow for the Cone Zone**” while traveling through this active construction area and please “**Move Over or Slow Down**” for all Construction, Maintenance and Emergency Response Vehicles working along and near the roadway.

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