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MoDOT reschedules weekend I-70 closure to remove bridges *(Department plans to close reversible lanes for two months)*

ST. LOUIS – The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) and its contractor Fred Weber, Inc., have rescheduled two weekend closures of Interstate 70 in St. Louis City to knock down two bridges over the interstate.

The department will close the interstate, and all ramps, between the Poplar Street Bridge and St. Louis Avenue.

MoDOT currently plans to close the interstate the weekend of February 19-22 to knock down the Cass Avenue Bridge and close the interstate the weekend of March 5-8 to remove the Madison Street bridge, weather permitting. The interstate will close at 8 p.m. on each Friday and will be reopened no later than 5 a.m. on the following Monday for each weekend closure. The work is being done in conjunction with constructing the New Mississippi River Bridge to relocate I-70 across the Mississippi River.

Additionally, the department will close I-70 reversible lanes on February 17 and keep them closed until late April to allow crews to construct the middle portion of the Madison Street Bridge over the interstate.

To get around the interstate closure, drivers must use a combination of Broadway Street, Washington Avenue and Memorial Drive. The detour around the work will be marked. However, since much of the detour is on roads with signals, drivers should make every effort to avoid the area, if possible.

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“If people don’t use alternate routes to travel to downtown, the detour for the I-70 work will take a long time,” said Gregory Horn, P.E., project director for the Mississippi River Bridge project. “We are encouraging people to avoid the area by using other routes. For example, people can use the Chain of Rocks Bridge on I-270 or the Jefferson Barracks Bridge on I-255 to get between Missouri and Illinois, use I-270 to get around St. Louis County, or use I-64 to get into downtown St. Louis.”

An estimated 70,000 vehicles travel on I-70 through downtown St. Louis each weekend.

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