

Thomas Roads Improvement Program

900 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 200 Bakersfield, California 93301
Telephone: (661) 326-3700 • Fax: (661) 852-2195



For Immediate Release

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Contact: Janet Wheeler
661/326-3491

Public Safety Advisory SR 178/Fairfax Road Interchange Project

With the third phase of construction underway and new traffic detours in place at the State Route (SR) 178/Fairfax Road Interchange project, the Thomas Roads Improvement Program (TRIP) would like to remind the public to stay alert and follow traffic signs and safe driving practices while in the area.

Fairfax Road, from SR 178 south is now open. But the road is closed to all vehicle and pedestrian traffic from SR 178 north to Auburn Street for approximately nine months. Area retail shops and services remain open and may be accessed from the freeway by exiting at either Oswell Street or Morning Drive. The public is further advised that there are no pedestrian crossings allowed within the construction zone at any time.

Eastbound and westbound traffic has been moved onto the new ramps to keep the highway open during construction; however, motorists should remain alert to changing conditions and give their full attention to the task of driving. Drivers should reduce speed, avoid tailgating, and watch for construction personnel and vehicles entering or exiting the highway.

Detours, restricted access, and the posted 45 mph speed limit are in place to help ensure the public's safety. Highway construction zones pose numerous hazards that may still be present after daily construction operations have ceased, which is why the public is prohibited from entering the site.

Current construction and detour information is available on the TRIP website at www.bakersfieldfreeways.us. For additional project information, contact Janet Wheeler at (661) 326-3491.

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