



CALTRANS COMMUTER ALERT

Date: September 5, 2008
District: 6 - Fresno
Contact: Holly Vogel
Phone: (661) 326-3968

STATE ROUTE 99 AND 7th STANDARD/MERLE HAGGARD ROAD LANE AND RAMP CLOSURES SET FOR SEPT. 7th - SEPT. 12th

Bakersfield - Kern County Roads Department is currently underway with a project to improve the 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road Interchange, construct a separation of grade over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and build a new northbound on-ramp at State Route 99 near Bakersfield.

To facilitate lane re-striping and removal of the temporary concrete barrier in preparation for completion of the new northbound on-ramp at 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road, northbound and southbound lane closures on SR-99 will begin Sunday, September 7th and continue through Friday, September 12th.

The northbound 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road on-ramp and one freeway lane will be closed nightly from 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. A second lane closure may be needed from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. Monday through Friday. On Sunday, September 7th, a second lane may be closed after 10 p.m.

During the 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road northbound on-ramp closure, motorists can enter northbound SR 99 at the Norris Road Interchange, approximately 1.5 miles to the south of 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road. From eastbound 7th Standard/Merle Haggard, turn right and proceed south on Pegasus about one mile to Norris Road and turn right at the onramp. From westbound 7th Standard, turn left onto Golden State Avenue and proceed south about one mile until Golden State Avenue meets the SR 99 northbound on-ramp. It is anticipated that the new northbound 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road on-ramp may open by mid September.

Motorists are advised that two additional temporary 4-way stop signs will be installed at the intersection of 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road and Quinn Road, and the northbound off-ramp at 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road. A traffic signal will replace the stop signs once the project is complete.

During construction, motorists will be alerted to lane/ramp closures via construction signage and electronic message boards along SR-99 and 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road and near the affected freeway interchange.

Kern County Roads and Caltrans thank the motoring public for their patience as we work to upgrade the 7th Standard/Merle Haggard Road Interchange. Motorists are reminded to allow additional travel time and drive with extra care through construction areas.

###

