



600 S. Grand Central Parkway • Suite 350, Las Vegas, NV 89106 • 702-676-1500

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Contact: Tracy Bower, RTC, (702) 676-1730 office, (702) 232-4888 cell
Allison Blankenship, RTC, (702) 676-1714 office, (702) 340-2050 cell

Construction on Sahara Avenue to begin Monday night

LAS VEGAS – Work will begin on Monday, Feb. 7 on the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Southern Nevada’s Sahara Express rapid transit project, resulting in travel lane restrictions on Sahara Avenue.

One travel lane in each direction on Sahara Avenue will be closed between Boulder Highway and Las Vegas Boulevard beginning at 9 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 7. Two travel lanes on Sahara Avenue will remain open to traffic in each direction at one mile increments.

Road work will occur during the day and at night. Day work will occur from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and night work will occur from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., Sunday through Friday.

While work is taking place, drivers should take precautions and allow extra time when traveling through the impacted area. Lane restrictions will be in effect for the duration of the project’s construction, expected to be complete in early 2012.

The Sahara Express will be another addition to the RTC’s expanding network of rapid transit services. The Sahara Express rapid transit line will include dedicated transit lanes along much of Sahara Avenue, from Hualapai Way in the western part of the valley to Boulder Highway in the east. The Sahara Express will then branch to serve neighborhoods north and south of Sahara Avenue and will also connect to the RTC’s Deuce on the Strip, Strip & Downtown Express and Boulder Highway Express routes. The RTC received \$34.4 million in federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act economic stimulus grant funds for the rapid transit project to improve mobility, connectivity and accessibility in Las Vegas and help spur local economic growth.

In addition to the new rapid transit lanes, the project will also feature solar powered transit shelters, ticket vending machines, elevated station platforms, and improvements to traffic signals along Sahara Avenue that will improve travel for both cars and transit operations. The project is expected to create nearly 500 private-sector jobs.

The RTC is the transit authority, transportation planning agency and regional traffic management agency for Southern Nevada. The RTC’s vision is to provide a safe, convenient and effective regional transportation system that enhances mobility and air quality for citizens and visitors. The RTC encourages residents and visitors to use alternate commute modes to help reduce traffic congestion, clean the air and improve the quality of life in Southern Nevada. For more information, visit rtcsonv.com.

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