

US 60 east of Superior to close briefly for blasting operations Oct. 13-15

*Passing-lane project continues with five 90-minute closures next week;
ADOT urges motorists to plan ahead or allow extra travel time*

Motorists traveling along US 60 between Phoenix and Globe next week need to plan ahead or allow extra time as the Arizona Department of Transportation continues blasting work as part of an improvement project to build a new passing lane and widen roadway shoulders east of Superior, approximately 65 miles east of downtown Phoenix.

The construction of the two-mile-long climbing lane from Devil's Canyon to Oak Flat (mileposts 231-233) will require five separate full closures of US 60 for up to 90 minutes:

- Tuesday, Oct. 13, at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 14, at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 15, at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and again from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Traffic on eastbound US 60 will be stopped east of Superior (milepost 227) and westbound US 60 will be stopped at the Top of the World, west of Miami (milepost 235) until the blasting work is completed and the roadway is reopened after all debris is cleared. Law enforcement officers will be stationed at each closure to assist with traffic control.

Immediately prior to each blast, motorists should be prepared for possible delays and lane closures through the area as crews set the concrete barrier prior to each scheduled closure.

ADOT anticipates the highway will be closed at least once per week for blasting through the end of the year. As blasting continues there will be a lesser impact on traffic and delays will be reduced.

Motorists seeking an alternate route can consider state routes 77 and 177, which is approximately 68 miles long. Motorists headed to the White Mountains region, including Show Low and Springerville, can also take State Route 87 through Payson and travel east on State Route 260 as an alternative.

ADOT will work to minimize the traffic impacts as much as possible, including scheduling some nighttime work.

There will be narrow traffic lanes, wide-load restrictions and a reduced speed limit through the work zone. Flaggers and pilot cars will be used at different times throughout the project.

Drivers are asked to use caution, watch for construction equipment and personnel, and allow extra time for your commute.

For more information on the project, please visit azdot.gov/us60oakflat or call Rod Wigman at 928-308-8233 rwigman@azdot.gov.