



City of Chico

SR32 Widening Project (Phase 1)

Volume 28

December 18, 2014

State Route 32 Widening Project (Phase 1)

Weekly Update

Introduction

Following is the Twenty-Eighth (28th) Volume of the SR32 Widening Project (Phase 1) weekly update newsletter. The purpose of these updates is to share detailed information regarding scheduling and construction activities anticipated for the upcoming week. If you do not wish to receive updates, you may opt out by sending staff a quick e-mail with that instruction. Alternatively, if you know of other interested parties that would appreciate being added to the list, please send an email request to: update32@chico.ca.gov

Dead Horse Slough Bridge Widening Work

The major structural components to the bridge widening work has been completed, including pile driving, bridge abutment pours, bridge deck pour and removal of forms. Now that the traffic configuration has been moved onto the new bridge, work will be performed on the existing bridge structure, including new concrete barrier and new concrete approaches to the bridge. Also, there is still a 2'-6" wide closure pour that needs to be completed in order to tie in the existing structure to the new structure. As a result of the wet weather, this work will proceed as the forecast allows. Working in wet weather can create significant safety issues due to slippery surfaces, picking up of heavy materials and potential storm water runoff issues.

Roadway Widening Work

The new asphalt roadway has been completed along SR32. Minor asphalt work remains to place the final layer of asphalt on Forest Avenue, as well as the approaches to the existing bridge structure. Also, final pedestrian and signal improvements on the south side of SR32 and Forest Avenue still remain. Lastly, a layer of 'Open Graded' Asphalt will overlay the existing roadway, acting as an additional sound mitigating device for traffic along SR32. Due to material performance characteristics, this material must be placed when the weather is warm (i.e. above seventy (70) degrees). As a result, this final item of work is not expected to be completed until sometime in the Spring of 2015, when the weather allows.

Precast Concrete Sound Wall

The decorative precast concrete sound wall has now been underway for awhile, with installation beginning at the east end of the project at El Monte Avenue. Onsite installation has slowed over the past several weeks due to the fabrication process not keeping up with the schedule of the project. Further, as a result of the wet weather, it is expected that the sound wall installation will stall through the winter because of safety, storm water permit concerns and cost issues that arise from trying to install this material in wet weather. In order to install this material, equipment and crews access the sound wall from the roadway embankment slopes. An earthen drainage ditch collects rain water and runs along the sound wall to the Dead Horse Slough and other drainage facilities. With the wet weather, these slopes become extremely saturated in water and create muddy, slippery conditions when constantly tracked over. The project operates under permitting in which strict State and Federal water quality laws must be followed to prohibit the transportation of sediment into streams and waterways (i.e. storm drain systems). As a result, if work continued throughout the winter, significant costs would be incurred each time a rain event is anticipated in order to protect the site from erosion and sediment transportation off of the project site. Further, trying to work in these conditions creates extremely unsafe conditions with worker safety, as well as safety to the traveling public.

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Stage 2 Traffic Alignment Shift

On November 25th, temporary pavement striping was placed to shift Highway 32 traffic onto the new pavement and nearest the new median guard railing, in order to create more room for the new roadway widening work to be performed on the shoulders of the highway. You will also notice that the temporary signal system at the intersection of Forest Avenue and Highway 32 has been activated and the previously existing traffic signal poles have been removed. New traffic signal poles have been erected on the north side of SR32, waiting to be activated until the remainder of the system is installed on the south side. Please be sure to travel through this area with caution, paying attention to the revised traffic alignment and devices, as well as the other suggested driving tips through a construction zone as referenced at the bottom of this newsletter.

Safety Tips

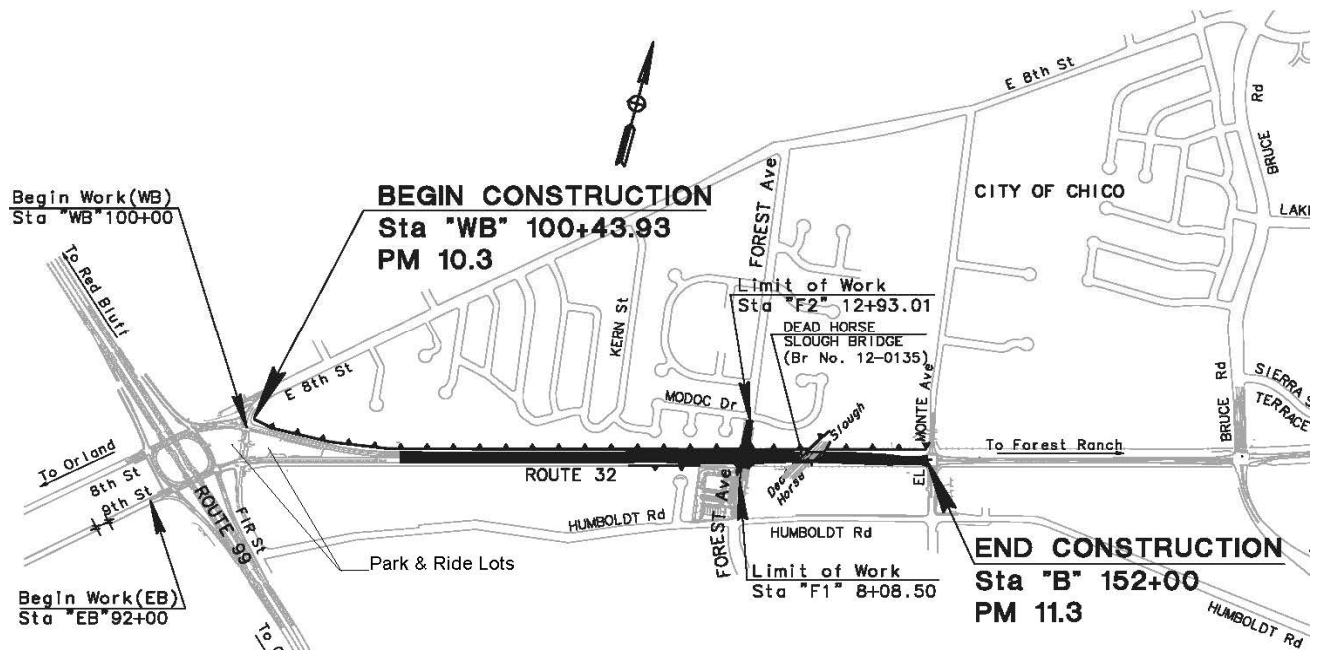
- ✓ Drive slowly and carefully through the construction area.
- ✓ Be alert for construction workers and large equipment, such as backhoes, graders and trucks.
- ✓ Obey all construction signs and directions from traffic control flaggers.

The City appreciates your patience and understanding during the project. Please feel free to contact City staff or the Contractor should you need additional information. The Contractor will notify residents & businesses at least 10 days prior to the commencement of any construction activities that may affect or is in the immediate vicinity of their property. For more information, please refer to the City Capital Project Services website at www.ci.chico.ca.us Pull down the Departments drop down menu and select Capital Project Services. The same web page can be accessed at the following link: www.ci.chico.ca.us/capital_project_services/home_page.asp

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS (Area Code – 530)

Capital Project Services Department	879-6900
Police Dispatch (use this number for immediate assistance from 5PM - 8AM)	895-4911
<u>Design Questions</u>	
Bob Greenlaw, Senior Civil Engineer	879-6930
Craig Murray, Associate Civil Engineer	879-6931
<u>Construction Issues</u>	
Tyler Bodnar, Construction Inspector	879-6936
Brendan Ottoboni, Resident Engineer	(925) 628-6196
<u>Knife River Construction (Contractor)</u>	
Jim Bennett (Project Manager)	891-6555
24-hour Contractor contact	891-6555

Area of Construction Activities (2014- 2015)



END