



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2010

Airline Highway Ramp Meter Activation Postponed

Baton Rouge—Activation of the ramp meter on the southbound Airline Highway on-ramp to westbound I-12 has been postponed from Tuesday, June 22 until Wednesday, June 23 at 6:00 a.m. Technical issues during testing have pushed back the activation date by 24 hours.

This activation follows the Essen Lane ramp meter, which was activated on June 8. In all, 16 ramp meters will be placed at on-ramps along Interstate 12 between Essen Lane and the Walker/LA 447 interchanges.

A third ramp-meter for Airline Highway northbound to I-12 west is scheduled for activation in July. After the Airline Highway ramp meters are functioning, future installations will be announced to the public prior to activation. Prior to activation, all signals will be covered for several days and a Variable Message Sign (VMS) will notify motorists of the upcoming change.

Once all the westbound ramp meters are activated, crews will begin installing eastbound ramp meters. The final meters will be placed at Range Avenue and O'Neal Lane eastbound on-ramps.

The ramp meters will operate exclusively during peak travel times, 6-10 a.m. for westbound on-ramps and 2-7 p.m. for eastbound on-ramps, and during special events or incidents.

Ramp meters help reduce congestion, provide a safer merge for vehicles entering the interstate travel lanes, improve travel time reliability and complement the I-12 widening. Once activated, the ramp meter signals stop vehicles for about four seconds on the on-ramp and allow drivers to access the interstate in an orderly and evenly-spaced fashion, sometimes described as a "zipper effect."

DOTD is offering to meet with interested groups and/or make presentations regarding the ramp meter system or the current Interstate 10/12 widening projects that are part of the Geaux Wider program. For more information on this project, visit www.GeauxWider.com or call Louisiana DOTD Customer Service at 1-877-4LA-DOTD (452-3683) 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The public may also access updated information on Facebook ([Facebook.com/GeauxWider1](https://www.facebook.com/GeauxWider1)) and Twitter ([Twitter.com/GeauxWider](https://twitter.com/GeauxWider)).

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