



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 13, 2010

Airline Highway Ramp Meter Scheduled for Activation

Baton Rouge— DOTD will activate another ramp meter on the northbound Airline Highway on-ramp to westbound I-12, Wednesday, July 14 at 6:00 a.m.

This activation follows the Essen Lane ramp meter, which was activated on June 8, and the southbound Airline Highway ramp meter, which was activated on June 23. In all, 16 ramp meters will be placed at on-ramps along Interstate 12 between Essen Lane and the Walker/LA 447 interchanges.

The next ramp meter to be activated will be in late July at the Sherwood Forest Boulevard on-ramp to westbound I-12. All 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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