



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 15, 2010

Traffic Shift for I-12 Eastbound *Motorists to Use New Amite River Bridge*

Baton Rouge— Motorists traveling east on I-12 can expect a shift to the new Amite River Bridge beginning Sunday, October 17. In order for this shift to take place, lane and ramp closures are necessary. The following closures are scheduled for Sunday, October 17, weather permitting:

- Eastbound I-12 between O’Neal Lane and 4-H Club will reduce to one lane from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m. for lane striping and the shift to the new Amite River Bridge
- The O’Neal Lane on-ramp to eastbound I-12 will have intermittent closures from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

This traffic shift will remain in place until late 2011, at which time eastbound and westbound traffic will shift to the newly-constructed westbound Amite River Bridge. The new eastbound bridge will then be widened to accommodate three lanes of traffic.

Westbound motorists along I-12 will experience a shift to the old eastbound Amite River Bridge in November. More information about this shift will be available in upcoming weeks.

Eastbound drivers wishing to detour this area may exit at O’Neal Lane, travel north to Florida Boulevard, travel east to Juban Road, and travel south to reconnect with I-12. Westbound drivers wishing to detour this area may exit at Juban Road, travel north to Florida Boulevard, travel west to O’Neal Lane, and travel south to reconnect with I-12. Oversized loads/vehicles will not be permitted to travel through these areas without proper permits and escorts because the lanes will only allow for 11’ wide or smaller vehicles to pass through the construction zone. All emergency vehicles will have access to travel through this area.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development appreciates your patience and encourages drivers to exercise caution and obey all warning signs through the construction area. Please be aware of all construction workers and equipment.

The Louisiana DOTD Geaux Wider program is a multi-year construction initiative designed to increase capacity, improve safety and enhance mobility on Interstates 10 and 12 in East Baton Rouge and Livingston Parishes.

The following interstate segments will be widened to six lanes under the Geaux Wider program:

- Interstate 10, from the I-10/12 split to Siegen Lane.

- Interstate 10, from the Siegen Lane interchange to Highland Road.
- Interstate 12, from the O'Neal Lane interchange to Pete's Highway.
- Interstate 12 eastbound, from Pete's Highway to Juban Road.

Construction is underway now with the completion date for the entire program estimated for 2013. For more information, contact Louisiana DOTD Customer Service at 1-877-4LA-DOTD (3683) or visit www.geauxwider.com.

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