

# Techwood Drive, 14<sup>th</sup> Street Ramp to Close

The Georgia Department of Transportation today announced upcoming road closures and detours related to the construction projects in the Downtown Connector corridor that includes resurfacing I-75/85 in summer 2008 and replacement of the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge to be completed in spring 2010.

The following closures will affect motorists traveling into Midtown Atlanta from I-85 southbound and I-75 southbound:

- I-85 southbound ramp to 14<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets will close on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**. Motorists should exit I-85 at 17<sup>th</sup> Street (Exit 84) and utilize the 17<sup>th</sup> Street bridge to Spring Street to access Midtown and locations west of I-75/85.
- I-75 southbound ramp to 14<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets from Exit 250 will close on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**. Motorists should exit I-75 at Northside Drive (Exit 252) and turn left onto 10<sup>th</sup> Street to access Midtown.
- Techwood Drive between 16<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets will close on **February 9<sup>th</sup>**.

These closures are a necessary part of the ongoing project to replace 14th Street Bridge over the Downtown Connector relieving congestion at the 14th Street interchange. The bridge replacement project also feature two new exit ramps from the interstate; southbound to 10th Street and northbound to 17th Street. The estimated cost of the project is \$88.5 million.

Motorists should be aware that this closure is only one of several traffic adjustments and street closings required to complete the construction work. This work is expected to significantly impact traffic congestion in Midtown.

- In summer 2008, 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and its adjacent roadway will be closed to traffic. Motorists will be detoured to the 17<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge once the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge closes. 14<sup>th</sup> Street and the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge are expected to reopen by summer 2010.
- Traffic on the Downtown Connector will be paced and lanes shifted to accommodate utility and other associated work throughout the course of the project.
- Williams Street, which closed to traffic in October 2007 will remain closed through summer 2009.

Additionally in March 2008 Georgia DOT will begin resurfacing approximately five miles of the Downtown Connector between University Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. The project includes resurfacing northbound and southbound lanes and is expected to be completed by November 2008. During construction, lane closures will be in place overnights Monday through Thursday with continuous closures on weekends starting Friday night and concluding Monday morning. Georgia DOT urges travelers to call 511 for updated information about this or any other construction project on interstates and state routes.

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