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BRIDGE WORK REQUIRES LANE CLOSURE ON I-40 MISSISSIPPI RIVER BRIDGE AT MEMPHIS

LITTLE ROCK (7-11) – Bridge work will require a lane closure on the Interstate 40 Mississippi River Bridge at Memphis, according to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) officials.

A construction company contracted by the Tennessee Department of Transportation is installing modular seismic expansion joints on the bridge to make it more stable in the event of an earthquake. Traffic will be reduced to two lanes in each direction until mid-December. Currently, there is a work zone in the center of the bridge with two eastbound and westbound travel lanes open, but new work will require a traffic shift.

Beginning on Wednesday, July 16th, the work zone will be moved to the north side of the bridge. Two westbound lanes will shift to the center of the bridge. Two eastbound lanes will remain on the south side of the bridge. The eastbound outside lane will be closed. This configuration is expected to continue approximately two months. Future lane shifts will be required to establish work zones in the center of the bridge and on the south side of the bridge. Traffic will be controlled using barrels, a temporary barrier rail and warning signs."

On Tuesday, July 22nd, at 10:00 a.m., the Tennessee Department of Transportation will close the I-40 eastbound Exit 1 ramp to Riverside Drive and Front Street in downtown Memphis. Traffic to downtown Memphis will be detoured to the Danny Thomas Boulevard exit and then to downtown using Poplar Avenue or Jefferson Avenue.

Drivers should exercise caution when approaching and traveling through all highway work zones. Additional travel information can be found at IDriveArkansas.com or ArkansasHighways.com. You can also follow us on Twitter @AHTD.