



Engineering and Construction Management Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 26, 2014

Bridge rehabilitation work requires closure of Kansas Street in Downtown El Paso

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EL PASO – Beginning next week, Downtown commuters and visitors should expect additional detours related to the on-going reconstruction of bridges over the Union Pacific Railroad.

Kansas Street will be closed to all traffic between Main Street and Franklin Avenue for three months beginning on **Tuesday, February 3, 2015**. Santa Fe Street will remain closed to all traffic between Main Street and Franklin through the end of the month.

IMPACTS TO MOTORISTS, PEDESTRIANS, AND CYCLISTS

Motorists, pedestrians and cyclists should follow marked detours which will be in place at both locations. Additionally, those commuting to Downtown from the Eastside or Northeast El Paso should consider using Loop 375 or exiting I-10 at Cotton Street and turning right on Texas Avenue to avoid Kansas Street.

IMPACTS TO SUN METRO SERVICE

Sun Metro will be required to detour routes 1, 42, 59 and 75. Sun Metro drivers will make courtesy stops along the detoured route as required. These routes may experience delays due to traffic, especially during peak hours.

- **Route 1 Detour:** Buses traveling outbound, north on Kansas will turn right onto Missouri, left onto Mesa, left onto Main, right onto Kansas continuing to the regular route. Buses traveling inbound, west on Missouri will turn left onto Mesa, left onto Main, right onto Kansas continuing to the regular route.
- **Route 42 Detour:** Buses traveling inbound, south on US 54 will turn right onto Loop 375, right onto Campbell, left onto Myrtle continuing to the regular route.
- **Route 59 & 75 Detour:** Buses traveling inbound, west on Missouri will turn left onto Mesa, left onto Main, right onto Kansas continuing to the regular route.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The bridges were built in 1946 as part of the Bataan Memorial Trainway project and have outlived their expected lifespan. Completing this work will ensure busy downtown corridors remain safe for the public to use. The \$1.1 million project is funded by the Federal Highway Administration through the Texas Department of Transportation.

The six-block Bataan Memorial Trainway allows transcontinental rail traffic to pass below busy downtown streets and was named an [Historic Civil Engineering Landmark](#) by the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers

MEDIA AVAILABILITY

Members of the news media can get up-close photos and b-roll of the work presently underway at the Santa Fe Street crossing on **Monday, January 26, 2015, at 2pm**. Meet at the corner of Missouri Avenue and Santa Fe Street. Proper footwear and an escort are required to enter the construction site. Interviews will also be available.

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