



# NEWS RELEASE

**#98-11**

**Today's Date:** Wednesday, June 1, 2011  
**District:** District 11 - San Diego and Imperial Counties  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Commuters Advised to Expect Delays During Nine-Day Closure of I-15 Express Lanes**

SAN DIEGO – Eight miles of the Interstate 15 (I-15) Express Lanes between State Route 56 (SR-56)/Ted Williams Parkway and State Route 163 (SR-163) will be closed for nine consecutive days, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) confirmed today. The Express Lanes will be closed to motorists from Saturday, June 18, to Sunday, June 26. The Express Lanes will be reopened by Monday, June 27, at 5 a.m. for the morning commute.

All traffic will be forced into the main lanes, so severe traffic congestion is expected on I-15 during the peak morning and afternoon commuting hours of the workweek—Monday, June 20, to Friday, June 24. Commuters are advised to plan ahead and leave earlier or later than usual to avoid frustration and some delays. Commuters are also encouraged to talk with their employers to coordinate alternative work schedules during this week.

The good news is that once crews reopen the Express Lanes on June 27, a total of four Express Lanes in the median of the freeway will be open in both directions 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

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This nine-day closure is necessary for construction crews to install the new moveable barrier inside the median of the Express Lanes and to finish important tie-in work at both the north and south ends of the existing facility.

Once the lanes reopen, there will also be a new temporary entrance and exit configuration for motorists traveling between the Express Lane and I-15. This closure will last for three months while crews complete critical paving, drainage, and electrical work. This closure is expected to have limited impacts to the commuting public. Detour signs will be placed to direct motorists to new Express Lanes access points.

Caltrans will make every effort to minimize disruptions to the public during this closure. This work is part of the South Segment of the I-15 Express Lanes. South Segment construction is expected to be completed by late 2011, approximately one year ahead of schedule. For more information on the I-15 Express Lanes project, call the project information hotline at (866) 890-1397 or log-on to [www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com](http://www.KeepSanDiegoMoving.com).

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