



Woodmen Road Corridor Improvement Project – Phase 1

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Contacts: Mary Scott
(719) 385-5248
or
Cheryl Everitt
(719) 520-5800

EXPECT DELAYS: Academy Boulevard Traffic to Shift under the Bridge

Beginning on Saturday, October 9 at 8 p.m., the process of shifting Academy Boulevard traffic into its permanent alignment from Shriker Road to York Road will start. This will place Academy Boulevard traffic under the newly constructed bridge. Multiple lane shifts will be employed during this time. It is anticipated that this process will be completed by Monday, October 11 at 6 a.m. Academy Boulevard will be reduced to one lane on Sunday in each direction during this transition period to allow for new striping, signage, and completion of this major project milestone. Drivers are reminded to slow down (posted speed limit is 30 mph in this construction area), watch for signs along the new alignment, and exercise caution.

Dan Krueger, the City's project manager, explained "the Academy Boulevard shift is the second to last major shift. We are committed to keeping the accesses open for the businesses in the area and the number of through lanes on Academy Boulevard (3) and Woodmen Road (2). However, during the approximately 30-hour transition period to shift traffic from the west of the bridge to under the bridge, we need to reduce the number of lanes. We anticipate that this will cause traffic delays. I encourage everyone to obey the speed limits. When one car slows down, the cars behind it are forced to do the same. Starting with one car at a time, we can make the construction zone a much safer place."

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Attached is a drawing of the alignment that will be constructed over the weekend and it will remain in this configuration until early next year when Woodmen Road traffic is routed onto the new bridge structure.

The Woodmen Road Corridor Improvement Project – Phase 1 will enter a new phase with this shift. This temporary alignment will allow the project team to begin retaining walls and backfill for ramp construction on the west side of the shifted Academy Boulevard. In order to ensure that the businesses in the area are fully accessible, the following changes will occur:

1. Woodmen Commons (Sam's Club): the Mimi's access road will temporarily reopen for northbound Academy Boulevard traffic access; a temporary left turn lane will be added on eastbound Woodmen Road at the eastern Sam's Club entrance; and maintenance of the access point at the Olga Willson Way traffic signal;
2. Woodmen Valley Shopping Center (King Soopers): the Hobby Lobby signalized access remains in place on Woodmen Road; the current southbound right-in access from Academy Boulevard will close; and the York Road to Earl Drive access point will remain open for northbound and southbound Academy Boulevard access.
3. Home Depot: No changes to the access points.
4. Villages at Woodmen: the right-in entrance only from northbound Academy Boulevard will open to provide a secondary access point to the residents.

Another major component of this traffic shift is the new northbound Academy Boulevard to eastbound Woodmen Road ramp will open to accommodate right turns. Right turns will not be permitted at the intersection from northbound Academy to eastbound Woodmen. Commuters traveling north on Academy will use the ramp to the right before the bridge structure and along the new wall to access eastbound Woodmen Road.

The new alignment of Academy Boulevard will continue to have three lanes in each direction, with two exclusive left turn lanes at Woodmen Road; and Woodmen Road will continue to have two lanes in each direction with two exclusive left turn lanes at Academy Boulevard.

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The Phase 1 Construction Project (Campus Drive to Stinson Road) will widen Woodmen Road to six lanes and build a grade-separated interchange at Woodmen Road and Academy Boulevard. Construction of these improvements is the first step to reduce congestion along Woodmen Road. The project started in September 2009 and is anticipated to be completed by September 2011.

For the latest updates of Woodmen Road construction and to sign up for the latest news by e-mail, please log on to www.woodmenroad.com. For general questions regarding the City PPRTA projects, contact Mary Scott (719) 385-5248.

Academy Boulevard Shift and Business Access Points

Anticipated traffic configuration through the Holidays

