

Traffic restrictions changing for Caltrans' projects

Traffic restrictions are changing next week for Caltrans' two water-quality improvement projects in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

Work on the \$57 million South Lake Tahoe Y to Trout Creek Bridge project on Highway 50 and the \$70 million Highway 89 West Shore project will resume Tuesday night.

Beginning next week on the Y to Trout Creek project, the contractor will be required to keep two lanes open in each direction from 9am-8pm Monday through Thursday. To accommodate that and continue work, traffic in the westbound No. 1 lane will be shifted into the two-way left turn lane and the No. 2 westbound lane and shoulder will be closed for construction.

Eastbound and westbound left turns will be restricted within the work zone. This configuration is expected to continue through Labor Day.

These two miles of Highway 50 are getting drainage systems to collect and treat storm water runoff, new curb, gutter and sidewalks, a wider highway to provide 6-foot shoulders for bike lanes and repaving. This is the first season of what's anticipated to be a three-year project.

On the West Shore, work is focused in the Sunnyside area between Ward Creek and Spruce Street in the final year of construction. During peak season, the contractor has to be off the road by 11am on Fridays and can't have lane closures between 11am and 6pm Monday through Thursday.

Motorists can expect one-way traffic controls with up to 20-minute delays beginning at 10pm Sunday and then from 6pm-11am Monday through Friday.

This project has constructed new drainage systems on about 8 miles of Highway 89 from Tahoma to Tahoe City. The highway also has been widened to increase shoulder room and repaved. Completion is expected by the end of July.