



State plans closure, demolition of I-45 bridge near Tiki Island

TxDOT is currently limiting loads of more than 80,000 pounds to pass over the I-45 northbound bridge at the BNSF rail line just north of Tiki Island and Galveston Island in Galveston County. This specific bridge was scheduled for demolition and reconstruction for next year as part of a complete reconstruction of I-45 in this area. However, during a recent bridge inspection, it was learned that the bridge required a variety of maintenance repairs to continue use by oversized vehicles.

In lieu of the repairs, TxDOT is working to expedite the replacement of the bridge as soon as possible. The agency is also working on alternative options to allow safe passage for oversized vehicles along I-45 going northbound from Galveston Island. There are plans to provide a bypass route that will take oversized traffic off of the mainlanes of I-45 passed the bridge. However, it will take some time to implement the temporary route and determine if the route is suitable for the passage of oversized vehicles.

Further, to expedite the construction of the new I-45 northbound bridge, we will move northbound traffic onto the southbound bridge. We will have two-way traffic on the bridge until the new northbound bridge can be built. At this time we are working on the details and have no firm timeline.

We understand the concerns of the community and we will continue to do all we can to minimize the impacts on the traveling public.

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