



Demolition of Ventura Boulevard off-ramp of the Hollywood Freeway is set for May 20. PHOTOS BY JOHN MAZZARELLA.

MTA To Begin Demolition of Northbound 101 Freeway Ventura Boulevard Off-Ramp/Overpass

By RICK JAGER

(May 12) Work is set to begin on the demolition of the northbound Hollywood 101 Freeway Ventura Boulevard off-ramp on Saturday, May 20 as part of surface restoration and traffic improvements at the Universal City Metro Red Line subway station.

MTA, working with Caltrans, will close the northbound Hollywood 101 Freeway at the Ventura Boulevard off-ramp from 12 midnight Saturday, May 20 through 9 a.m. Sunday, May 21 for part of the demolition work needed to be done to remove the present overpass structure.



Southbound lanes will close June 3 to complete the demolition.

Brutoco, under contract to the MTA, will use state-of-the-art demolition techniques that will involve the use of a hydraulic hammer. The contractor's plan calls for demolishing the northern half of the off-ramp on May 20-21 and finishing the southern demolition work the following weekend on June 3-4. On Saturday, June 3, Caltrans will close the southbound lanes of the Hollywood 101 Freeway to complete the demolition work.

Most of the demolition work will be performed at night to avoid

impacting rush hour traffic along the Hollywood Freeway.

Area Residents Advised at Community Meetings

MTA has conducted various community meeting to advise surrounding residents of the construction work that will take place. MTA Public Affairs representatives also have distributed flyers to businesses and residents in the immediate area concerning the two weekends of demolition work that is needed to remove the existing overpass so that construction can begin on a new overpass.

Construction of the new freeway bridge overpass and ramps is anticipated to last a year. A detour will be established from the Lankershim Boulevard off-ramp or the Vineland Avenue off-ramp from the 101 Freeway. In addition, improvements have been made to the Vineland Avenue off-ramp including new traffic signals and new lanes have been added to Vineland at Ventura Boulevard to accommodate increase traffic flow.

The new freeway improvements will not only improve access to the Universal City Metro Rail Station but will also enhance overall traffic flow in Universal City, Studio City and surrounding communities.

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