

## **UDOT I-15 CORE Enters Final Year of Construction**

*Utah County freeway project scheduled to finish in 2012*

I-15 CORE, the largest highway project in Utah history, has entered the final year of construction and is on schedule for completion in December.

The Utah Department of Transportation is reconstructing 24 miles of I-15 in Utah County with new 40-year concrete pavement. The project will add two additional lanes in each direction from Lehi to Spanish Fork, extend the HOV lane from University Parkway to Spanish Fork, and rebuild or replace 63 bridges and 10 freeway interchanges.

“Construction crews are out working hard every day in order to wrap this project up in an unprecedented 35 months,” said Todd Jensen, UDOT I-15 CORE project director. “Although the end is in sight, there is still a lot of work left to do and we appreciate everyone’s patience.”

Plenty of work has been done already. To date, Provo River Constructors crews had achieved the following milestones:

- Excavated and placed 6.3 million tons of fill dirt — enough to fill 12 BYU Marriott Centers.
- Erected 420,000 square feet (or 31,000 linear feet) of sound wall — enough to build a wall around The Gateway, Energy Solutions Arena, the Salt Lake Convention Center, Temple Square and City Creek Center — or 11 whole Salt Lake City blocks.
- Poured 249 lane miles of concrete pavement — enough to construct a two-lane highway from Provo to Logan.
- Painted more than 6 million feet of temporary striping and roadway markings (roughly 1,100 miles) — enough to paint a line all the way from Provo to Houston.
- Installed 40 miles of drainage pipeline — more than 1.5 times the length of Utah Lake.

Things are really starting to take shape. The section of I-15 CORE between Lehi and Lindon is scheduled for completion in early June.

In the coming months, crews will be busy reconstructing interchanges at 1600 North, 800 North and Center Street in Orem, and completing a new I-15 overpass at 500 West in Provo. A new Continuous Flow Intersection (CFI) is being constructed at University Parkway and Sandhill Road in Orem, and two pedestrian undercrossings are being completed near Utah Valley University.

“We’re delivering a complete reconstruction of the freeway that will meet traffic demand through the year 2030, while at the same time we’re using innovation to minimize delays for the traveling public,” Jensen said.

Drivers can stay informed about I-15 CORE construction activities by signing up for weekly email updates at [udot.utah.gov/i15core](http://udot.utah.gov/i15core), following the project on [facebook.com/i15core](https://facebook.com/i15core) and [twitter.com/i15core](https://twitter.com/i15core) and receiving text updates by texting “i15core” to 53535.

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