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NEWS RELEASE

Concrete Repair of Southbound US Highway 550 near Santa Rita Park

Durango, CO: Starting on Monday October 15th, Drivers can expect traffic disruptions between Santa Rita Drive and Sawyer Drive on US Highway 550 while crews work to perform a concrete panel replacement of a southbound section of the highway. An extensive repair to City sewer infrastructure underneath the highway was completed in August; temporary asphalt patches were placed to restore the road during the height of summer traffic. Now that traffic volumes have decreased, the temporary asphalt must be replaced with concrete panels to restore the road to its original condition.

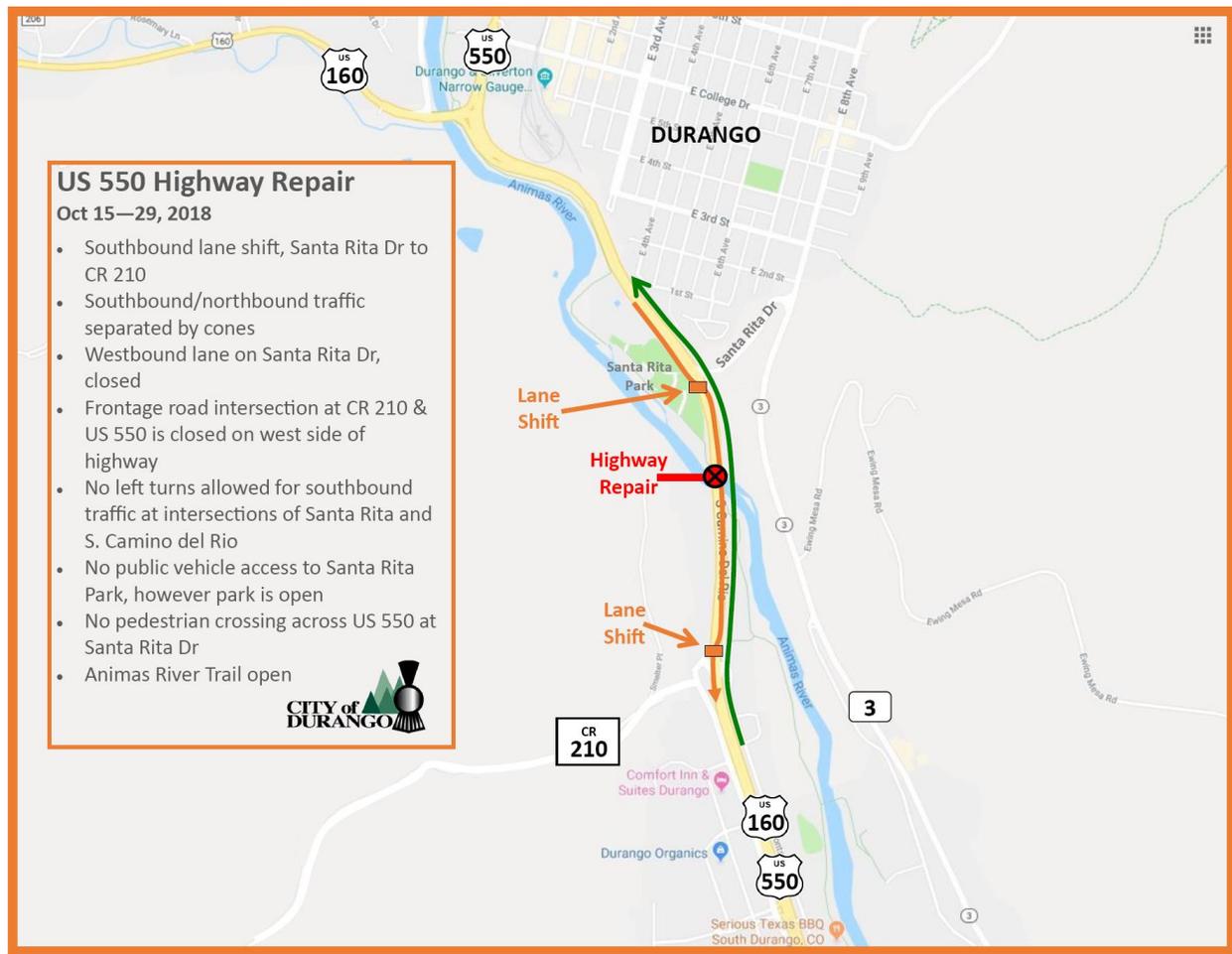
Once the concrete is poured, it must cure before the lanes can be reopened to traffic. Regular traffic patterns are expected to return by Monday, October 29th, weather permitting. Motorists are encouraged to seek alternative routes to avoid the construction area.

To complete the repairs, closure of the southbound lane of US 550 between Santa Rita Drive and County Road 210 is required. Southbound traffic will encounter a lane shift onto a northbound lane. Northbound and southbound traffic will be separated by cones. The westbound lane on Santa Rita Drive is closed. The frontage road intersection at the intersection of County Road 210 and US 550 is closed on the west side of the highway. Lake Nighthorse, County Road 210, and businesses on the west side of US 550 can be accessed from the intersection of Sawyer Drive and US 550. There is no left turning allowed for southbound traffic at the Santa Rita Drive and S. Camino del Rio intersection. Businesses on the east side of US 550 can be accessed at the intersection of Sawyer Drive and US 550.

There will be no vehicle access to Santa Rita park for the duration of the project. Santa Rita Park is open, but vehicle access is restricted to construction traffic only. There is no pedestrian crossing at US 550 from Santa Rita Drive, please seek alternative routes. The Animas River Trail is open to pedestrian and bike traffic.

Due to detours and traffic disruption, Durango Transit service to Walmart may be impacted during high-volume commute times. For real-time updates regarding service delays, please download the Ride Systems app (available for free in iPhone and Android app stores) or call 970-259-5438.

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