



Tennessee Department of Transportation

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Riverfront Parkway to be Closed for Work on Market Street Bridge *Closure to begin the day after Labor Day*

Chattanooga, Tenn. – The Tennessee Department of Transportation’s (TDOT) Market Street Bridge project will shortly undergo a new phase of construction. The contractor on the project, Mountain States Contractors, will soon begin demolition and reconstruction work on the south end of the historic structure. In order to safely do this work, the area of Riverfront Parkway beneath the construction will have to be closed for a period of up to six months. Detours will be posted at Lookout Street and Chestnut Street.

“In order to accommodate tourist season, the contractor agreed not to begin this phase of the project until September 5, 2006, which is the day after Labor Day,” stated Bob Brown, TDOT Regional Director. “The contractor has six months to complete this stage of the plan. The goal is to have the area reopened well before next year’s Riverbend Festival in downtown Chattanooga.”

In addition to the closure of the roadway, pedestrian traffic in the area will also have to be protected during a portion of this time. Access to The Passage steps and walkway, which is adjacent to the bridge, will be restricted for six to eight weeks during the major demolition phase, but will be partially reopened to foot traffic upon completion of the demolition.

The Market Street Bridge project began on September 18, 2005 and is expected to be completed in September 2007. The contractor has a total of 180 days to complete the south end of the project and get Riverfront Parkway reopened to traffic.

“We apologize for any inconvenience this closure may cause motorists who usually travel thorough this area,” said Brown. “However, public safety during this phase of the job is our top priority.”

For more information on TDOT projects in the area, log onto our website at www.tennessee.gov/tdot.

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