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Road-work zones to dot area Monday

I-74 reconstruction to pick up speed after Fourth of July

July 4, 2003

By **OMAR SOFRADZIJA**
of the Journal Star

PEORIA - Road-work zones should dot the Peoria area from Monday on as the \$461 million reconstruction of Interstate 74 picks up speed, according to the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Among road-work plans announced Thursday afternoon and slated for next week:

- In Peoria, lane reductions can be expected on I-74 between Forrest Hill Avenue and University Street; the inner lanes of Sterling Avenue will be closed from War Memorial Drive to Gale Avenue, though one lane of traffic in each direction will remain open; and work on the Gale overpass should not result in any lane reductions.
- In Downtown Peoria, the southbound right lane of Knoxville Avenue will be closed from Illinois Avenue to Columbia Terrace; and work will begin on Berkeley Avenue, though no traffic disruptions are expected there.
- In East Peoria, maintenance work along Riverfront Drive is not expected to result in any lane reductions.

Those projects are in addition to road work plans for next week that were announced earlier this week.

Those plans include lane reductions on Interstate 74 near Morton and Interstate 474 from Peoria to Morton; lane closures on Rockwood Drive and Eugenie Avenue in Peoria; and the permanent closure of the Armstrong Avenue overpass at I-74 in Peoria at 9 a.m. Monday.



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Also, the removal of traffic signals at Knoxville and Armstrong and the activation of temporary signals at Knoxville and Pennsylvania Avenue.

There will be no road work today, Saturday and Sunday in observance of the Fourth of July holiday. Most lane reductions this week will be lifted to allow for holiday traffic.

Next week's work is all weather-dependent, and further updates of plans may be necessary, IDOT said, adding that drivers should use alternate routes if possible and use caution in work zones.

For more information, call a toll-free project hotline at (866) 474-6397 (or I74-NEWS) or by dialing #74 on a U.S. Cellular phone, or click on the Big Fix/Upgrade 74 link on the Journal Star's Web site at www.pjstar.com/news/.

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