



## **I-25/NM 14 (Cerrillos Road) Diverging Diamond Interchange Announces Expanded Website, Facebook Page and Twitter Account**

*Goal is to Provide More information to Commuters and Residents/Businesses Affected by Project Construction*

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**SANTA FE** – The I-25/NM 14 (Cerrillos Road) Diverging Diamond Interchange Project, the first of its kind in New Mexico, has expanded its website – [www.santafeddi.com](http://www.santafeddi.com), created a Facebook page (Santa Fe DDI), set up a Twitter account (@santafeDDI), and created a toll-free hotline (1-844-804-9730), to provide ongoing information to commuters, Santa Fe area residents and businesses being affected by Project construction.

“Our goal is to let everyone know about construction impacts such as lane closures and detours as much in advance as possible so they can plan their trips to minimize inconvenience or delays,” explained Rosanne Rodriguez, Quality Manager and Public Information Officer for District 5 of the New Mexico Department of Transportation.

She added, “We are providing updates and information in a variety of formats to make it as convenient as possible for everyone to get the information they need in the way that works best for them – by phone or online.”

Rodriguez added that the contractor is also minimizing construction impacts by scheduling the majority of the closures during nighttime hours, from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

In addition to links to Facebook and Twitter, the expanded website features galleries including aerial construction videos and photos of the Project; a construction updates section for all traffic advisories; official reports and documentation relating to the Project; information about public outreach; news and events; and a contact us section where people can email questions and comments about the Project. The website also features a driving simulation link to educate the public on how to navigate through a Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI).

It is anticipated there will be a winter shutdown on the \$19.8 million construction Project from November 15, 2015 to April 1, 2016. The Project is scheduled to be completed by November 2016 and is designed to offer the following benefits:

- Improved safety through longer merging lanes for getting on and off I-25 and merging with traffic on NM 14 (Cerrillos Road). In fact, traffic exiting I-25 will have five times more distance to merge with traffic on NM 14.
- Improved safety through eliminating the need for left turns onto NM 14.

- Improved traffic flow and reduced traffic congestion.
- Enhanced pedestrian/bicyclist mobility and safety through construction of a pedestrian/bicycle trail that will bypass the interchange entirely and tie into the Arroyo Chamiso Trail as well as wider shoulders for bicyclists who want to ride along NM 14 (Cerrillos Road) through the DDI.
- Reduced length and cost of construction and maintenance.

The Project is being paid for by a combination of federal and state highway funds and is in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration, Santa Fe County, the City of Santa Fe and the Santa Fe Metropolitan Planning Organization.

The Project is needed because the I-25/NM 14 (Cerrillos Road) interchange is more than 40 years old. The area continues to grow and develop, and many of the aging bridges and other structures in the interchange are reaching the end of their functional lifespan.

“We encourage anyone who wants to learn more about New Mexico’s first diverging diamond interchange to visit [santafeddi.com](http://santafeddi.com) and let us know if they have questions or concerns. We’re excited about the opportunities this new, innovative Project will provide to improve traffic flow and safety for anyone traveling through the interchange,” Rodriguez said.

All construction for the Project is subject to change without notice and weather permitting.

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