



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2016

PHASE II

A TDOT FIRST!

To accelerate the construction of retaining walls and backfill, TDOT elected to use geofoam blocks in select locations on the I-40/I-240 Interchange project. Geofoam is a lightweight fill material designed to be economically/ecologically more feasible than concrete and easier to install, while still retaining the weight bearing capabilities necessary in major construction projects. These blocks are made up of material approximately 100 times lighter than soil.



Each block has been prefabricated to meet this specific project's requirements. They are being installed in a specific order to provide backfill to a retaining wall as

well as serve as a roadway bed. This is a first for the department and should save valuable time in comparison to traditional backfill practices.



Picture from December 15, 2015



Picture from January 12, 2016



Picture from February 19, 2016

As we approach the third month in 2016, traffic will be shifting to the new outside lanes of the Wolf River Bridge on I-40 in Memphis. Crews will begin to tear down and rebuild the inside portion of the bridge. So, what does this mean for our motorists? This means in order for crews to safely continue building this bridge, lane closures will continue to be in place. If you are traveling I-40 westbound, you will still have three lanes across the bridge, the lanes will be shifted to the right (on the new section of bridge). If you are traveling I-40 eastbound from I-240, you will go down to three lanes. What that means is the I-240 to I-40 eastbound ramp will reduce from two lanes to one lane. The final product will have an additional lane in each direction, going from 11 to 13, with six lanes westbound and seven lanes eastbound. The bridge portion of this project is estimated to be complete Fall 2016, with the final project completion estimated for Summer 2017.

TRY A DIFFERENT ROUTE

If you travel through the I-40/240 interchange during peak times, try adjusting your travel times or consider an alternate route to get to your destination on time.

Expect ongoing temporary and intermittent lane closures.



Call 511 or visit the TDOT SmartWay website for travel information and traffic conditions.



Memphis and Shelby County is part of TDOT's District 49 which covers, Shelby, Lauderdale, Tipton and Fayette Counties in Tennessee.

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For project information visit the webpage at: www.tn.gov/tdot/article/transportation-projects-region-4-i40-240-memphis