

KELLER CITIZEN AUGUST 2, 2016 10:56 AM

FM 1938 project makes progress through Westlake, Keller and Southlake



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BY NICHOLAS SAKELARIS
Special to Star-Telegram

SOUTHLAKE — The FM 1938 project will pass a milestone soon as the concrete barriers at the Southlake Boulevard intersection will be removed, which should help drivers navigate the area. Also, Lovegrass Lane is scheduled to re-open this week.

In addition to widening FM 1938 to four lanes with a median and raised curbs, the \$20.6 million project will expand the intersection at Southlake Boulevard so there will be two turn lanes in all directions, said Val Lopez, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Transportation.

There will be new curb medians on all the approaches, new lighting, sidewalks and landscaping. Traffic congestion at that intersection has been a problem for years, with vehicles stacking up in the single left-turn lanes. It's especially been problematic for traffic on westbound Southlake Boulevard trying to turn left onto Davis Boulevard since TxDOT installed medians there.

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To add the turn lanes, workers had to add pavement at all four corners of the intersection, meaning new driveway approaches were needed for some businesses.

Lopez said the concrete barriers will be coming down at that intersection to be replaced with orange barrels. The good news is that some driveways will be accessible again.

The final intersection configuration won't be ready until spring 2017, Lopez said.

Workers also are busy laying down new pavement on FM 1938 and on several streets that intersect with it. Lovegrass Lane opened up to traffic this week with new pavement.

In some sections, drivers are still using the old FM 1938. At some point, traffic will switch over to the new pavement and the old will be torn up.

The overall project is slated for completion at some point in 2017, but the completion date depends largely on the weather.

"The dry weather helps," Lopez said. "The beginning of the project we had lots of rain issues."



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