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## **SCOTT STREET PROJECT BEGINS JULY 13**

Federal stimulus money is bringing a new surface to the [Scott Street Bridge](#) this summer. For about three months, the traveling public will be detoured to avoid the work zone. The project will begin on July 13.

The relatively short period of inconvenience will result in a new deck for the center two spans of the 1979-vintage bridge, along with a new latex concrete overlay over the entire span. Stimulus money (the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) is allowing the bridge to be repaired now at a lower cost with less down time than would be required if the project were put off.

The Scott Street Bridge will be closed starting July 13 until the end of October. Traffic will be rerouted with posted detour signage. All efforts are being made by the Montana Department of Transportation and the contractor, the Montana-based Sletten Construction, to make the detours work smoothly throughout the construction and to cause the least impact to neighborhoods. (See map below.)

“We know this will be an inconvenience, and we thank people in advance for their patience,” said City of Missoula Public Works Director, Steve King.

Last year in anticipation of the project, the City of Missoula widened the road and added a turn lane at North Fifth Street and Orange Street to help traffic flow.

The Missoula Police Department and emergency responders anticipate the same response times from their downtown stations. Police will provide extra patrols in the adjoining neighborhoods to ensure availability and to enforce traffic laws. Police will also step up patrols at the pedestrian overpass. Officers will pay special attention to areas where detour routes can be improved.

The City of Missoula and Montana Rail Link are concerned that this inconvenience could result in area residents trespassing through the neighborhood rail yard. It is recommended that all foot traffic be diverted to the North Side Pedestrian Overpass located off Railroad Street, east of the Scott Street Overpass.

Anyone found on railroad property is considered a trespasser and could be putting themselves in grave danger. In addition to other safety measures, Montana Rail Link is installing additional fencing to help keep pedestrians from putting themselves at risk. Railroad property will be under even closer security during this time and authorities will cite anyone found trespassing.

We are especially aware of the neighborhood children; it is especially important that parents educate their children pertaining to the dangers of trespassing on railroad property.

Most of the project's heavy lifting will be done during the daytime hours. Some pouring of concrete will take place at night. Notice of work taking place between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. will be given 48 hours in advance.

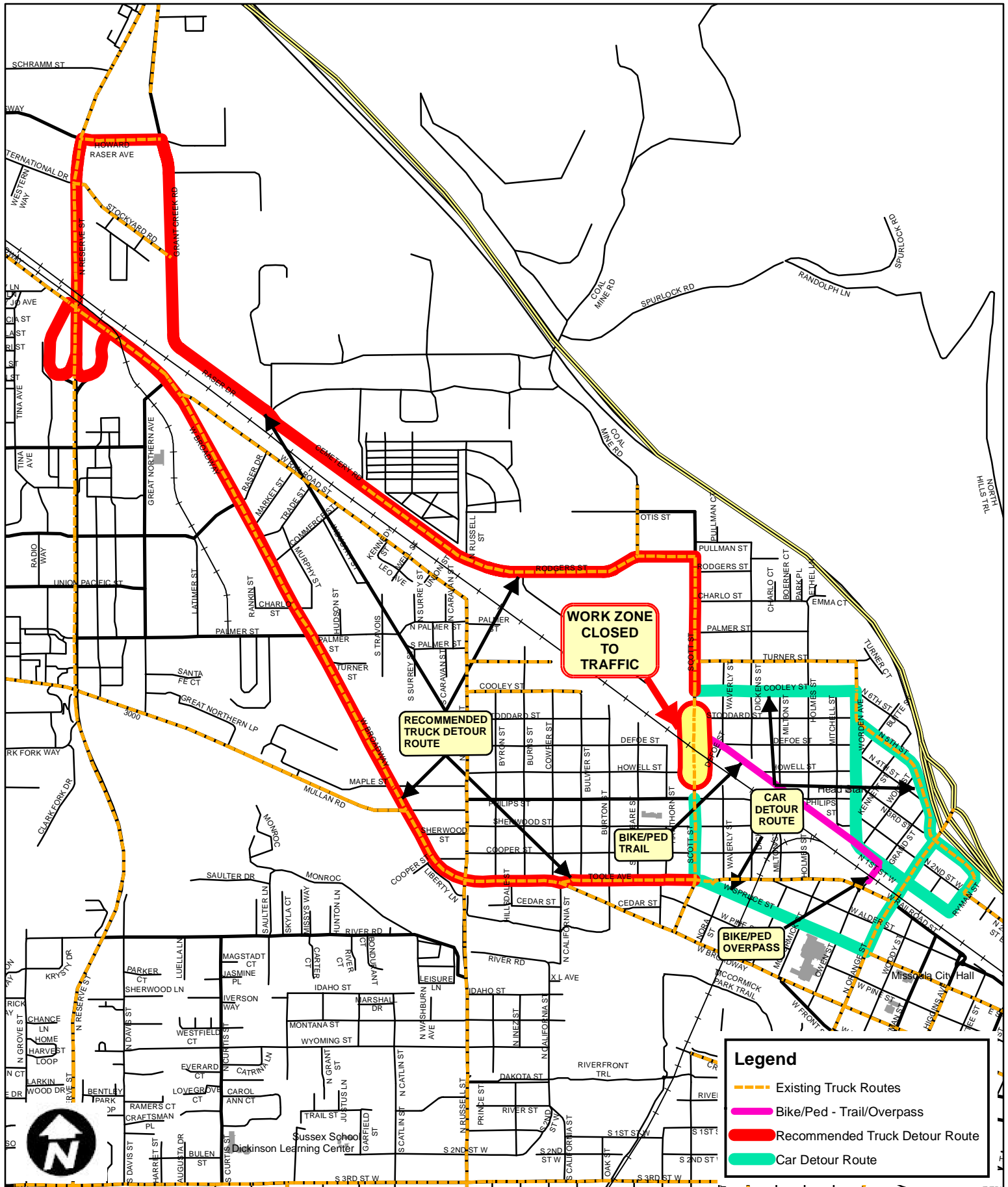
If you have questions about the project or traffic questions and comments, please call:

Montana Department of Transportation – Dean Jones 523-5823

Sletten Construction - Chad Mores at (406) 454-6404 or Dan Frank at (406) 788-9044

In case of problems or complaints, individuals can call toll-free 1-877-477-1292 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. A written log of calls will be maintained and replied to as soon as possible after they are received.

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# SCOTT STREET BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT DETOUR ROUTES

