



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Full Bridge Closure Still Scheduled June 19-21 for Huey P. Long Bridge**

JEFFERSON, La. – A 48-hour closure of the Huey P. Long Bridge is still on schedule as previously announced last week. The full bridge closure is scheduled to start at 5 a.m. Saturday, June 19 and will end at 5 a.m. on Monday, June 21. The closure is needed as a steel structure larger than a football field is lifted into place with multiple barges and heavy-duty jacks. A variety of weather factors could impact this operation, and as such the project team is closely monitoring conditions.

Postponements will be announced if necessary.

The massive bridge segment is the first of three to be lifted in place by this method, and will provide the narrow bridge the capacity to add lanes. The magnitude of this lift, which is actually two major lifts, is rare for its size and scope.

Motorists are advised to take alternate routes, including the Crescent City Connection and Interstate 310.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) encourages the public to follow up-to-date information about the Big Lift on the Huey P. Long Twitter page at



## LOUISIANA TIMED MANAGERS

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[www.twitter.com/hueypbridge](http://www.twitter.com/hueypbridge) and on Facebook at <http://bit.ly/HPLFB>. Those who wish to watch the Big Lift live can do so by accessing two web cameras available on the project website at [www.hueypbridge.com](http://www.hueypbridge.com) by Friday, June 18.

For more information or high resolution images, contact Indira Parrales, Public Outreach Office at 504-731-4200 or Jodi Conachen, DOTD Communications Director, (225) 379-1275.

The Huey P. Long Bridge Widening Project is a TIMED (Transportation Infrastructure Model for Economic Development) Program project. The TIMED Program was created by Act 16 of the 1989 Louisiana Legislature, was voted for by the people and is the single largest transportation program in state history. The \$5.2 billion improvement program includes widening 536 miles of state highways, new construction or improvements to three major bridges projects and the improvements to both the Port of New Orleans and the Louis Armstrong International Airport. The Program is designed to enhance economic development in Louisiana through an investment in transportation projects.

As one of 16 TIMED projects, the completed Huey P. Long Bridge Widening Project will include three 11-foot lanes in each direction, along with new inside and outside shoulders across the bridge. The project also will include construction of new roadway approaches that will provide signalized intersections at Bridge City Avenue and Jefferson Highway. The entire project is scheduled to be complete by 2013.

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