

April 14, 2004

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONSTRUCTION ALERT**

The seventh and final phase of the Federal Highway Administrations (FHWA) reconstruction of the Mount Lemmon Highway is currently underway. This widening and safety improvements project will reconstruct the highway between milepost 11.2 and 15.9 (Cypress Picnic Area to Lizard Rock). Improvements will include a wider and safer roadway, improved drainage, new roadside pullouts for slower traffic and temporary parking. New vista areas, including a redesigned facility at the Windy Point Vista, will provide safer pedestrian access and a larger parking area.

**WALL CONSTRUCTION TEMPORARILY CLOSES WINDY POINT VISTA**

The work operations of the shoring and wall crews have progressed to the Windy Point Vista area. In order to insure the safety of the public, beginning Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> Windy Point Vista will be closed to all vehicles and pedestrians, including hikers, rock climbers and bicyclists. No parking of any type will be allowed in the area until the Vista is reopened. The Federal Highway Administration anticipates the reopening of Windy Point Vista to occur prior to the Memorial Day weekend. Later in the project, the Vista will be closed again while concrete paving of the area is completed.

**TRAFFIC CONTROL**

Due to the limited sight distance and the “alternate-one-way” passage areas in the work zone, the use of a traffic control signal system will remain in effect in order to move vehicles safely through the work zone. The delay at the traffic control signal should not exceed 10 minutes.

Additionally, Monday through Thursday traffic control for construction activities remains in effect. For detailed information regarding this schedule call the Mt. Lemmon construction information line at 520-751-9405.

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