

Arizona Class – Special instructions for Travel in Tucson

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has closed all of the on-ramps and off-ramps along a 5 mile stretch of Interstate 10 (I10) through downtown Tucson. This closure is scheduled to last 2½ years (yes, years), and is being done to widen I10.

I10 remains open, although restricted to two lanes in each direction. However, ten exits are closed, as well as the corresponding on ramps.

The closure affects Speedway Blvd. which is the road you need to take to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. You are not able to exit I10 at Speedway Blvd; neither are you able to enter I10 at Speedway.

Please refer to the map below. The map is correctly oriented with respect to direction, i.e. north is at the top. I10 is an east-west running freeway, but in Tucson, I10 has an almost north-south orientation. If you are traveling east on I10 (from Cal Poly), when you are in Tucson, you are heading almost due south. I10 soon curves back to the east; you can see it on the map below.

TO REACH THE MUSEUM:

If you are traveling east on I10, take the Prince Road exit (exit 254), and take the Frontage Road south (the Frontage Road is one-way; you can't go north).

Travel on the Frontage Road about 3 miles, then turn right (heading west) on Speedway. (See detailed map below). Be careful, some of this road is narrow and hilly with sharp curves, especially as you go over Gates Pass - proceed slowly and with caution. See map. In about 12 miles, you will come to a stop sign at Kinney Rd. Turn right on Kinney Road and travel about 2.5 miles. The museum will be on your left.

If you happen to be traveling west on I10, exit at 29th Street (exit 259), which takes you on to the Frontage Road heading north. If possible, try to turn left (heading west) on Speedway. If they won't let you turn left on Speedway (i.e. the underpass is closed), continue north and take the first available road (Grant Rd, Miracle Mile, Prince Rd. or Ruthrauff Rd.) that will take you under I10. Turn left on the Frontage Road (heading south), and then right (heading west) when you get to Speedway. Then follow the instructions in the paragraph above.

NOTES:

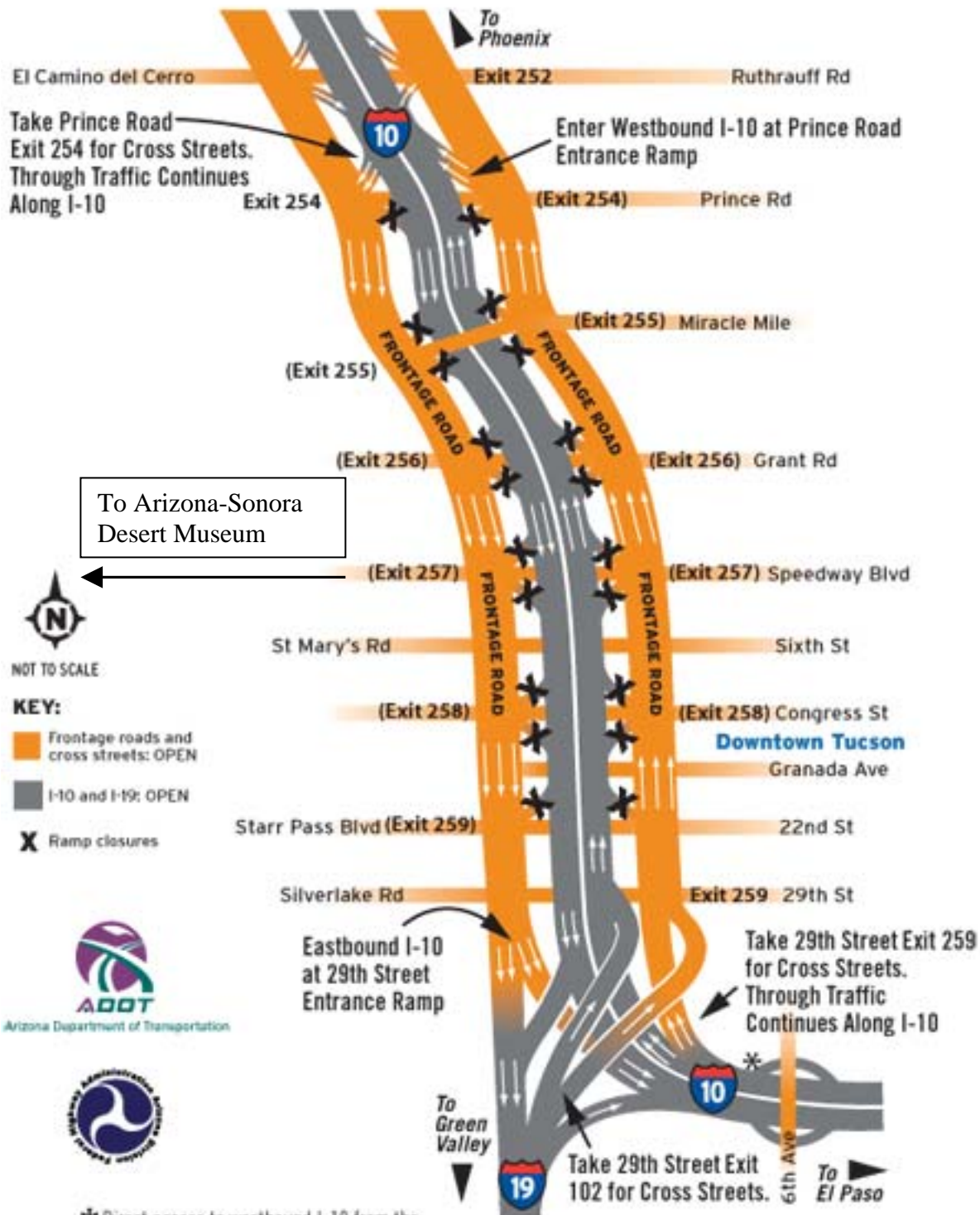
The closure of these exits on I10 can create traffic congestion. Hopefully it won't be too bad early Sunday morning when you go to the museum, but allow extra time. Allow about 50 min to get from Tucson to the museum. Traffic congestion could be a problem when you get to Tucson on Saturday, and as you pass through Tucson on the way home after the course.

As you drive to the museum, you will encounter a "wildlife museum" on the right side of the road. This is NOT the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. This is a small, private, low-quality museum hoping to get people to stop there. Do NOT stop there. Proceed on to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum.

Current information on the closure can be found at:

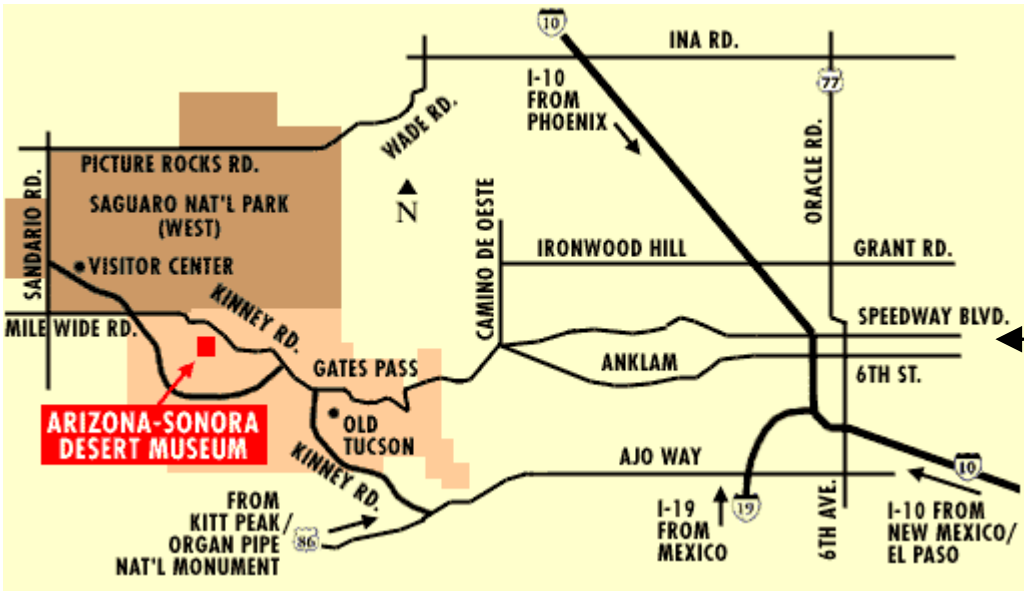
<http://www.i10tucsondistrict.com/29toP.html>

It may seem incredible that ADOT would close 5 miles of on- and off-ramps through the middle of the city for 2½ years. Tucson is a much smaller city than LA (Tucson's population is about 500,000.) Also, when it comes to disregard for public safety and convenience, ADOT is very much a match for Cal Trans.



* Direct access to westbound I-10 from the westbound I-10 entrance ramp at 6th Avenue is currently not available.

Note: Some ramps in this area are not shown in order to show local access as clearly as possible.



Coming from I10
on Speedway