



# CITY OF TUCSON

---

## NEWS RELEASE

---

**Contact:** Michael Graham  
Public Information Officer  
(520) 837-6686  
michael.graham@tucsonaz.gov

**Date:** August 21, 2014  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### TRAFFIC ALERT

#### FOURTH AVENUE UNDERPASS TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE

With the return of University of Arizona students and the anticipation of heavy traffic volumes in the downtown area, the City of Tucson of Tucson Department of Transportation (TDOT) will prohibit southbound motor vehicle travel through the Fourth Avenue Underpass at Ninth Street.

This temporary closure will take place Thursday, August 21, Friday, August 22 and Saturday, August 23, from 7 p.m. to 2 a.m. During the temporary closure, the Sun Link Streetcar and bicyclists will be allowed to use the southbound travel lane through the underpass, and pedestrians will be allowed to use the southbound sidewalk through the underpass.

For the past several weeks, TDOT staff has been evaluating and monitoring traffic volumes, traffic movements and pedestrian access at the Congress Street, Fourth Avenue and Toole Avenue intersection. The increased activity in the downtown area, specifically at the Congress/Fourth/Toole intersection, has caused gridlock conditions. TDOT staff made permanent traffic signal timing adjustments last week on Congress which improved traffic flows.

Prohibiting southbound travel through the Fourth Avenue underpass during the peak travel hours for this area is expected to further ease the congestion along Congress Street. TDOT staff will again evaluate and monitor travel patterns this upcoming weekend and additional traffic control measures may take place in the future.

Electronic message boards will be in place along Fourth Avenue to inform motorists of this weekend's travel lane restriction. Motorists are urged to use caution when traveling along Fourth Avenue and in the downtown area due to the high volume of pedestrian activity in these entertainment districts.

###