

L-4 needs concrete that hardens fast

ROAD from B-1

Late today, Snyder said, core samples will be taken to determine whether the mix has hardened enough to support a high volume of traffic — more than 6,000 cars an hour during the morning rush.

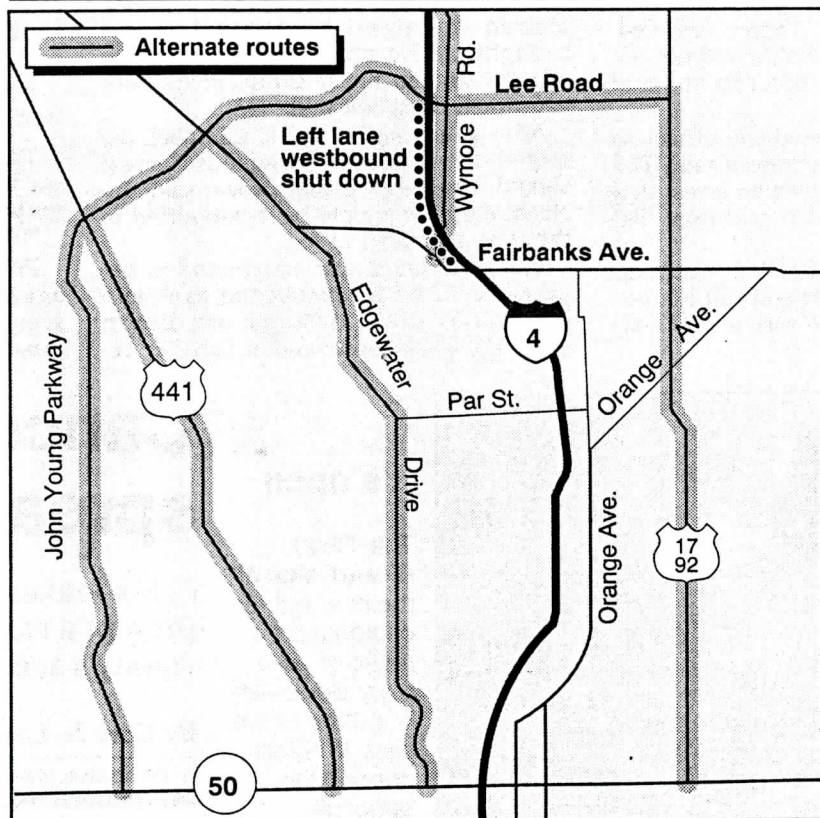
"We're optimistic when we say this should be ready by morning rush hour Friday," Snyder said. "But then again we're not taking any chances."

Homan said the emergency bridge repair project couldn't wait until the weekend, when traffic would be less impacted.

"Minimizing the inconvenience to motorists is a concern," Homan said. "But I'm not a weather forecaster, and we're not going to wait around for the big washout."

DOT crews also will repair a large rain gutter that added to the erosion. That work will close the passing and middle lanes between Lee Road and Fairbanks Avenue from midnight to 3 a.m. Friday.

The westbound left lane of I-4 between Lee Road and Fairbanks Avenue will be closed shortly after 9 a.m. Thursday for road work. The Department of Transportation recommends the following alternate routes:



BRENDA WEAVER/SENTINEL