

For immediate release
September 22, 2009

Temporary 315 Closure During Floodwall Testing **Regular tests assure reliability in the event of actual flooding**

Department of Public Utilities crews will conduct a regular test of sections of the Franklinton Floodwall that crosses State Route 315 this Sunday, September 27. The day and time were chosen to impact the fewest drivers possible while allowing the necessary work to be completed.

“These regular tests ensure that the floodwall is working properly to help protect our residents and their property during very heavy rains that can cause flooding,” said Department of Public Utilities Director Tanya Arsh. “Our crews also use these tests to maintain their high level of training to install floodwall gates quickly and safely.”

The temporary closure, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m., will affect S.R. 315 between the Rich/Town Street exit and the I-670 exit. The closures will be marked and the freeway will be re-opened as soon as the testing is complete. Electronic changeable message boards were set up on S.R. 315 Monday, September 21, to alert motorists of the upcoming temporary closures.

“We are working closely with Public Utilities to make sure the closures on State Route 315 go smoothly and motorists are aware of the work well before it starts,” said Department of Public Service Director Mark Kelsey.

Federal safety regulations require that each gate along the length of the floodwall, which extends along the Scioto River from near I-670 south to Frank Road, be tested at least once every three years. This test will also allow crews to perform routine maintenance such as painting the side of the steel gate that normally faces the floodwall itself.