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Posted: 3:09 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2015

I-4 Ultimate work includes moving large dirt mound in Maitland

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ORANGE COUNTY, Fla. — Construction crews are gearing up to begin I-4 Ultimate work at multiple parts of the interstate.

This week, the Florida Department of Transportation will start work in Maitland and downtown Orlando. Some of the scheduled work was pushed back Sunday and Monday nights because of rain.

In Maitland, crews will begin moving dirt from a large mound that's been sitting near the highway since 2010. The 171,000 tons of dirt was put in place to help repair an old sinkhole.

"The dirt was actually pushing down on that concrete plug that we put in the ground," said Steve Olson, with FDOT.

Special Section: I-4 Ultimate project

Photos: I-4 Ultimate project overview

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Olson said the expanded interstate will do the same job that the mound of dirt was doing.

"Some folks say, 'It's rather curious that you're building over the site of what used to be a sinkhole, but with that grout in place, and the way the design stacked up it made sense," Olson said.

Crews will install more barriers around the Maitland Boulevard interchange Tuesday night and into Wednesday morning. Drivers can expect to see a lot of dirt being moved around until the end of May.

In downtown Orlando, drivers will start seeing construction in the coming months.

"In the next 30 to 60 days, you'll probably see barriers, walls go up right around the I-4 and 408 interchange, where we're going to start doing some work eventually," Olson said.

Construction is also about to begin near Ivanhoe Boulevard, where FDOT will eventually close the eastbound off-ramp.

The Maitland work will require one eastbound lane to be closed from Kennedy Boulevard to Maitland Boulevard from 9:30 p.m. until 7 a.m.