

PIR REBUILD UNDERWAY

PHOENIX RACEWAY PROJECT POWERED BY DC SOLAR FIRST STEEL SET AND PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL EXCAVATED

Phoenix Raceway, along with parent company International Speedway Corporation (ISC), announced a \$178 million redevelopment on January 30, and the project is now underway. Concrete elevator towers were already standing by the time the Phoenix Grand Prix rolled around in late April.

DC Solar is title sponsor for the Phoenix Raceway Project Powered by DC Solar modernization and multi-year sponsor of the redesigned Midway.

The project includes extending the grandstand near what has been Turn 2, with seating and hospitality roughly doubled in size. The existing Bobby Allison Grandstand will be extensively upgraded, with old bench seating replaced by individual 20-inch seats with cupholders and free in-seat WiFi. The new extension will have 20- and 21-inch seats with the same features. The expansion curves to the south, so it will provide excellent shade coverage for spectators in the new grandstand, as well as in the remodeled existing grandstand.

Pre-race will take place in front of the majority of fans, between what have been Turns 1 and 2,

with a Gatorade Victory Lane fan viewing area.

The start/finish line moves to old Turn 2, just before the well-known dog leg, closer to fans and shaking up competition considerably, launching into one of the most challenging areas of the track.

Concessions, merchandise stands, guest services and medical center will all be new or completely renovated. New suites will accommodate 18, 28 or 48 people, with new seating for easier mingling between outside and in, while new Club 64 is essentially one huge hospitality suite that accommodates multiple groups collectively.

There will be four new escalators, five new elevators and a new pedestrian tunnel with access to a completely redesigned infield with new DC Solar Fan Midway and first-of-its-kind Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Garage Fan Zone, placing fans face-to-face with the superstars of the sport, watching over a waist-high wall, seeing right into the garages—no glass and no obstructions—as their favorite teams prepare their cars and hold driver meetings. There will also be glass-walled

garage hospitality suites.

The old grandstands along the straightaway on the north side will be removed once the new structure is complete, by November 2018, creating new RV camping spots, with both premium track viewable spaces and non-track-viewable spaces.

While some parking will be relocated, the majority will remain untouched and free.

LOADS OF STEEL PARADE

On May 25, Phoenix Raceway marked an important milestone for its redevelopment as the first steel for the grandstand addition was delivered. The event was marked by a parade from Phoenix Raceway headquarters and ticket office, running down Avondale Boulevard to the track, led by an Avondale Police Department escort and the official Phoenix Raceway Toyota Camry. City of Avondale officials and Phoenix Raceway ticket holders joined members of the Okland Construction project team in four semi trucks, each carrying 40,000 pounds of steel—the first of 100 trucks that will transport steel to the track for the project.

STEEL INSTALLATION BEGINS

At dawn on May 30, the day after Memorial Day, the first piece of steel was installed for the new

Phoenix Raceway redevelopment starts at the west end, with grandstands and suites extended to the south (orange). The next phase includes a new tunnel connecting to the infield, which itself will be totally transformed. As new facilities come online, the old north side grandstands will be removed.

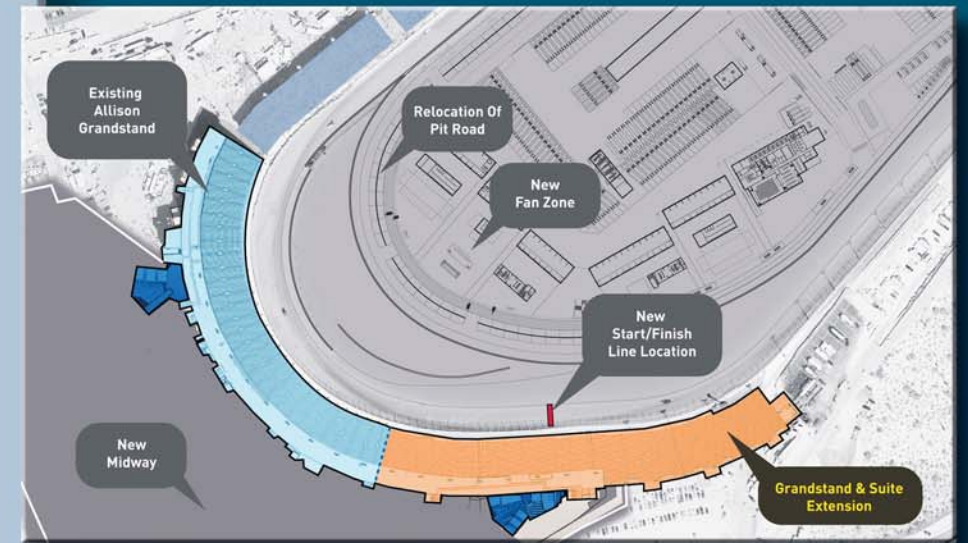
grandstand, featuring a special message, “Best Wishes from Daytona,” a fraternal passing of the torch from partner ISC facility Daytona International Speedway, which recently completed its own significant redevelopment project. The beam is the first of nearly 2,000 tons of steel that will be installed by Phoenix Raceway Project Powered by DC Solar’s completion in November 2018.

PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL CONSTRUCTION

In late June, the construction crew began excavation of a new pedestrian-only tunnel near current Turn 2, for quick and easy access from the grandstands to a centerpiece of the redevelopment—the infield DC Solar Fan Midway and Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series Garage Fan Zone.

SEATS, TICKETS AND CAMPING

For detailed information on 2017 season tickets and 2018 renewals, individual tickets, seats, parking and camping during the transformation, visit PhoenixRaceway.com, or call the PIR ticket office at 866-408-RACE (7223). The ticket office is open Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm, at 125 S Avondale Blvd, Suite 200, Avondale AZ 85323. ■



Lead photo: Phoenix Raceway

Photos: Joe Sage (6) ; bottom center and bottom right: Phoenix Raceway