

News Release

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MOTORIST ALERT: I-495 Capital Beltway HOT Lanes Construction Hits High Gear

Significant lane closures on Route 123 in Tysons begins today

Fairfax – Capital Beltway construction hits Tysons Corner today with long-term 24/7 lane closures on Chain Bridge Road (Route 123) at the I-495 overpass. Closures are necessary because the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is building a new Capital Beltway bridge over Route 123 as part of the I-495 high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes project.

“Give yourself more time to reach your destination particularly in the morning and afternoon rush-hours.” said Steve Titunik, Virginia Megaprojects communications director. “While traveling delays are inevitable with construction of this magnitude, be rest assured that VDOT is doing everything possible to keep you moving during construction.”

What to look for

- Left lane in each direction on Route 123 closed 500 feet beneath the I-495 overpass
- These closures are in effect 24/7 until Thanksgiving, when the two lanes will reopen for the 2009 holiday shopping season, and then close again in early 2010 for 18-24 months
- Expect delays along Route 123 during rush-hours
- Prepare for additional delays in the Tysons area due to utility relocation and rail extension work as part of the Dulles Metrorail project

Keeping drivers moving during construction

- Route 123 and arterial roads remain open during the entire project
- Through traffic is not directed to local streets
- No Beltway lane closures during peak rush hours
- Businesses remain accessible at all times

Help for navigating construction

- Teleworking, ridesharing and other commuting options help to reduce congestion and ease stress – some of these options come with special incentives for employers to help their employees get to work or work from home
- VAmegaprojects.com is the centralized information source for project information, maps, lane closures, and commuting options - you can also sign up for project updates
- 511northernvirginia.com has the latest information on traffic and road conditions

“The Route 123 closures is a sure sign that the Beltway is undergoing a major transformation as VDOT makes significant headway in building 14 miles HOT lanes from the Springfield Interchange to just north of the Dulles Toll Road,” said Titunik. “When completed, HOT lanes along with the Dulles extension will improve traffic flow, business efficiency and personal mobility for everyone in the Tysons area.”

The I-495 HOT lanes construction is part of the Virginia Megaprojects – a series of large-scale transportation improvements designed to ease congestion and provide you with more travel choices throughout the Northern Virginia region.

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