

Subject: Fw: Hampton Roads VDOT Traffic Update 4:30 a.m.
From: "Eischen, Dawn" <Dawn.Eischen@VDOT.Virginia.gov>
Date: Fri, 13 Nov 2009 05:37:51 -0500
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From: VDOT News
To: Hampton Roads Public Info
Sent: Fri Nov 13 04:31:41 2009
Subject: Hampton Roads VDOT Traffic Update 4:30 a.m.



TRAFFIC ALERT

VirginiaDOT.org

November 13, 2009

RELEASE: **IMMEDIATE**
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UPDATE: 4:30 a.m.

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CURRENT ROADWAY CONDITIONS FOR HAMPTON ROADS

SUFFOLK – The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) encourages motorists to avoid driving if at all possible. If motorists find it is necessary to use area roads, they should stay alert for fallen trees, limbs, and roadway debris and use extreme caution while traveling throughout the region.

Interstate roadways continue to be passable; however access is still limited in many areas due to flooding on city streets and ramps. New information highlighted in *italics*:

64 EB to 15th View
64 EB at I-664 SB/Powhatan Parkway Interchange – single lane
64 EB to Mercury Boulevard (North)
64 EB on ramp from LaSalle to 64 East
64 WB to 15th View
264 EB to Frederick
264 EB to Effingham

264 EB to Tidewater Drive
264 EB to Waterside Drive/St. Paul's Boulevard
264 WB to Frederick
264 WB to City Hall
264 WB to Brambleton
264 WB to Campostella
264 WB to Waterside Drive/St. Paul's Boulevard
264 WB to Victory Boulevard
664 SB to Terminal Avenue

The High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) reversible roadway has not been reversed due to power outages and continues in the eastbound direction. The HOV reversible roadway will continue to remain in the eastbound direction through the morning rush hour.

The right two lanes of N. Hampton Blvd (Route 13) is blocked at the I-64 interchange due to a fallen tree.

I-64 East off ramp onto Mercury Boulevard North toward the Coliseum will remain closed through Friday morning rush hour. I-64 East off ramp onto Mercury Boulevard South toward the James River Bridge is open to traffic.

Additionally, Route 175 in Accomac County has been re-closed to traffic due to high tides, closing off access to the Chincoteague Causeway. Crews will reopen the causeway as soon as it is safe for motorist passage.

Further rural primary and secondary road closure information can be found on www.511virginia.org.

Speeds have been reduced at most of the area bridges. Motorists should be alert for speed reductions. VDOT reports the following conditions at area bridges and tunnels:

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------|
| Route 17 | Coleman Bridge | OPEN North and South |
| I-264 | Downtown Tunnel/Berkley Bridge | OPEN East and West |
| I-64 | Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel | OPEN East and West |
| I-64 | High Rise Bridge | OPEN East and West |
| I-664 | Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel | OPEN East and West |

Route 17 James River Bridge CLOSED North and South *through morning rush hour*

The Route 17 James River Bridge will remain closed through Friday morning rush hour as tide waters on the Isle of Wight side of the bridge are still blocking the roadway. Motorists should anticipate the James River Bridge to remain closed until tides recede to a safe level. An alternate route is the I-664 Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel.

Route 58 Midtown Tunnel CLOSED East and West *until after 12 noon*

The Midtown Tunnel will remain closed *through after the noon hour* due to high tides that have not receded in the surrounding area. Motorists should anticipate the Midtown Tunnel to remain closed

until tides recede to a safe level, and use the I-264 Downtown Tunnel as an alternate route. If waters begin to recede after high tide, our goal is to be able to open the tunnel by mid-afternoon.

Route 31 Jamestown Scotland Ferry *SUSPENDED SERVICE until after 12 noon*

Jamestown-Scotland Ferry service will *remain suspended until after noon today* due to high tides and wind. Motorists should anticipate the ferry to remain closed until tides recede enough to allow ferry landing gear to safely mount the dock for automobile boarding. The suggested detour route from the Peninsula to the Southside is Route 5 West to the Judith Stewart Dresser Memorial Bridge in James City and Charles City Counties to Route 106/156 South. Motorists can then take the Benjamin Harrison Bridge to Route 10 East to Surry.

Safety of the traveling public and the security of our facilities is our primary concern. If water levels continue to rise we will need to re-evaluate the need to close the remaining tunnels if the tide levels threaten these critical facilities.

VDOT will continue to monitor roadway conditions into the night as crews have been placed on a 12-hour rotation schedule throughout the completion of the storm.

Motorists are encouraged to call 511 or listen to Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) 610 AM or call the Traffic Information Line at 757-361-3016 for current traffic and travel information.

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