

For Immediate Release
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New Traffic Patterns on Beltway Lanes in VA and MD Near the Woodrow Wilson Bridge Starting This Weekend (11/2) Lane Closures All Weekend in Virginia; *Significant Traffic Delays Expected*

Alexandria, VA / Oxon Hill, MD – Motorists traveling across the Woodrow Wilson Bridge should prepare for new traffic patterns on I-95/I-495 (the Capital Beltway) both in Virginia and Maryland, **beginning this weekend (November 2-4)**. In Virginia, it is planned for all lanes on I-95 South (the Capital Beltway’s Inner Loop) to be shifted to a new alignment. Assuming that all remaining preparatory work is completed as planned this week, this weekend traffic shift will move forward. To complete the Beltway shift in Virginia, lane closures will be necessary both on the Inner and Outer Loops from 9:00 p.m., Friday, Nov. 2 until as late as 5:00 a.m., Monday, Nov. 5. The maximum 57-hour closures in Virginia are necessary to mill and pave connections to and from the existing Beltway alignment to the new alignment, which is approximately 50 feet to the north. In Maryland, it is planned for all lanes on I-95 North (Beltway’s Outer Loop) to be shifted to a new alignment.

Motorists are urged to stay away from the Wilson Bridge this weekend as crews complete these traffic shifts, particularly on the Beltway’s Inner Loop. Based on typical Inner Loop traffic volumes on the weekend, there is potential for traffic backups in excess of ten (10) miles on Saturday and Sunday, if motorists do not find alternate routes.

Details on both traffic shifts (Virginia and Maryland) and specific Beltway lane and ramp closures, which are necessary, are as follows:

Virginia

In Virginia, all lanes on I-95 South (the Capital Beltway’s Inner Loop) will be shifted to the north onto new Inner Loop lanes, from the Route 1 Interchange to Telegraph Road Interchange Exits. Sequence of events is:

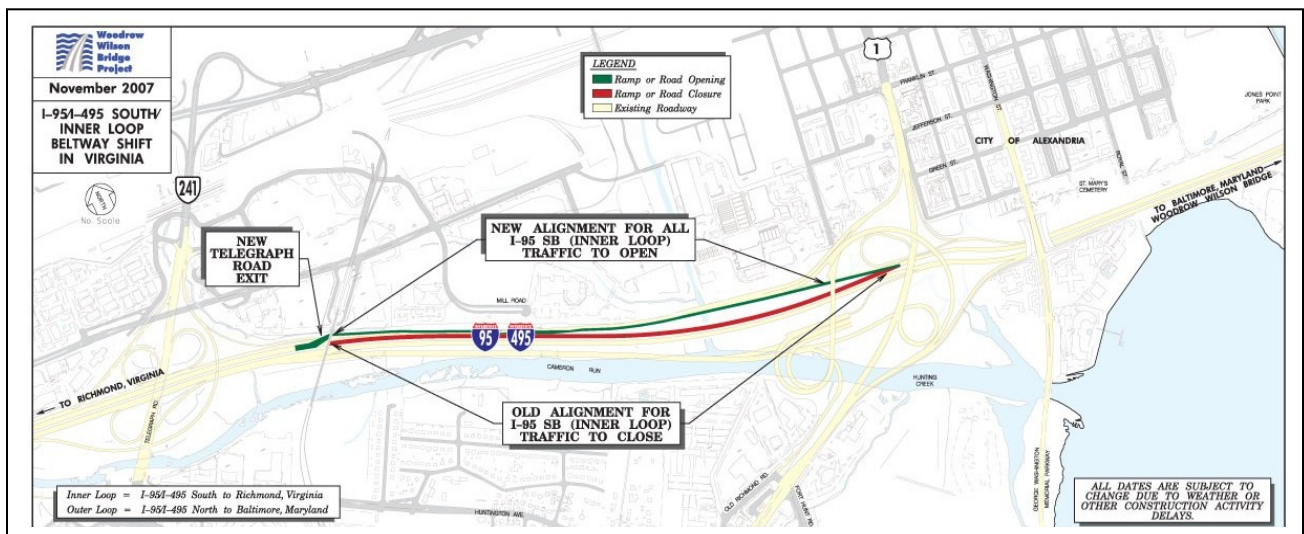
1) **9 p.m., Friday, 11/2 until early morning Saturday, 11/3:**

- Alternating lanes will close on I-95 South/Beltway Inner Loop and **one lane of traffic will remain open**, on a temporary detour alignment located approximately 50 feet to the north, from the Route 1 Interchange to Telegraph Road Interchange Exits.
- The far left lane on I-95 North/Beltway Outer Loop will be closed to allow access by construction equipment and trucks.

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- The Beltway ramps from the Inner Loop to Route 1 South and Telegraph Road North and South will be closed with traffic detoured onto Route 1 North. These ramps only will be closed for a short time on Friday night to allow traffic to be routed onto the detour alignment, and again very early on Monday morning when traffic is returned to the new Beltway alignment.
- 2) **Early morning Saturday, 11/3 until as late as 5 a.m., Monday, 11/5:**
 - **Two lanes of traffic will be open** on the temporary detour alignment.
 - **Intermittent traffic stoppages or reductions of one lane will occur** throughout the weekend.
 - 3) **No later than 5 a.m., Monday, 11/5:**
 - **All Beltway lanes and ramps will reopen** on new alignment.

Map of Inner Loop Beltway Shift in Virginia



Maryland

In Maryland, all lanes on I-95 North (the Capital Beltway's Outer Loop) will be shifted to the south onto new Outer Loop lanes. The shift, which is similar to the recently completed Beltway Shift on the Inner Loop in Maryland, will extend for approximately one mile, beginning at the I-295 Interchange to the MD 210 Interchange Exits. Sequence of events is:

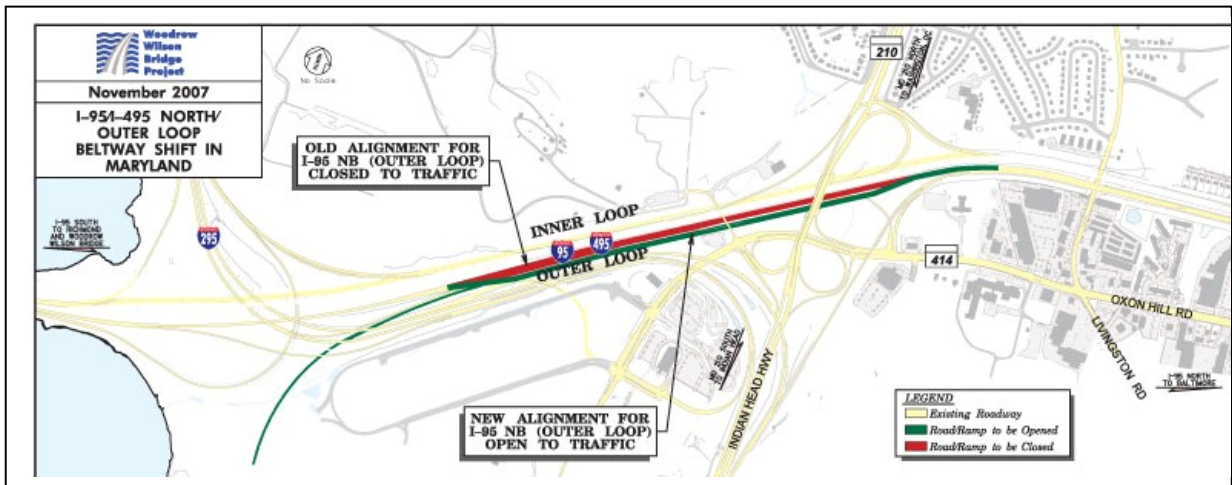
- 1) **9 p.m. Friday, 11/2 until early morning Saturday, 11/3:**
I-95 North/Beltway Outer Loop will be reduced to one lane between the I-295 and MD 210 Interchanges.

The following Beltway ramps will be closed and motorists will be directed to follow signed detour routes:

- I-295 South to Outer Loop
- Outer Loop to MD 210 North
- MD 210 North to Outer Loop
- MD 414 East and West to Outer Loop

- 2) **Early morning Saturday, 11/3:** All newly-aligned Beltway lanes and ramps will reopen.

Map of Outer Loop Beltway Shift in Maryland



These important traffic shifts are necessary to build new Beltway lanes that ultimately will separate local and long-distance travelers, and match the wider new Wilson Bridge spans. In the event of inclement weather, all work and lane closures will be rescheduled.

Extensive highway signage will be posted directing motorists through the closures and detour routes. **To avoid the possibility of delays, however, motorists are urged to stay away from the Wilson Bridge this weekend.**

Southbound long-distance travelers are urged to consider using I-495 West (Outer Loop of the Capital Beltway) running to the west and north of Washington, DC toward the American Legion Bridge, which is approximately the same distance for I-95 travel. Southbound travelers also may use US Route 301. Northbound I-95 travelers should consider US 301 or I-495 North, the Inner Loop, toward the American Legion Bridge.

Click on www.wilsonbridge.com for the latest information.

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