

NEWS RELEASE

VirginiaDOT.org

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE May 25, 2016

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SMITH STATION ROAD TURN LANE PROJECT TO BEGIN IN SPOTSYLVANIA

Construction will add a dedicated left turn lane and extend existing right turn lane to reduce congestion on Smith Station Road near Courthouse Road intersection

FREDERICKSBURG – Construction will begin next week on a project that seeks to reduce congestion on northbound Route 628 (Smith Station Road) in Spotsylvania County for motorists approaching the Route 208 (Courthouse Road) intersection.

The \$2.9 million project will build a dedicated left turn lane for traffic turning from Smith Station Road onto westbound Courthouse Road. The existing right turn lane will be extended.

When the project is finished, the line of vehicles waiting on northbound Smith Station Road to pass through the intersection during the evening rush hour is expected to fall from an average of 4,400 feet to approximately 800 feet.

Other project features:

- The Courtland Commons shopping center entrance on Smith Station Road will be changed to a right turn in/right turn out pattern.
- A second entrance to Courtland Commons will be built on Smith Station Road south of the shopping center, where motorists will be able to make right and left turns.
- New traffic signal equipment will be installed at the intersection of Smith Station Road and Courthouse Road

Construction will begin on Tuesday, May 31, and will conclude by Oct. 11, 2016.

Lane closures will not be permitted between 6:30-8:30 a.m. and 3:30-6:30 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Additionally, due to the close proximity of Courtland High School and Courtland Elementary School, no lane closures will be permitted between 2-3:30 p.m. through June 17, and again after September 5.

Motorists can expect brief travel delays during construction. Smith Station Road may be periodically reduced to a single lane with alternating traffic between Courthouse Road and the entrance road to Courtland High School.

Motorists should follow direction from the flagging crew, and stay alert for temporary traffic patterns, temporary pavement and construction equipment.

A \$1.1 million contract for construction was awarded to J.L. Kent & Sons, Inc., of Fredericksburg, Va.

A map of the project design is available online at the project page on www.VirginiaDOT.org:

http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/resources/Fredericksburg/Smith_Station_Road_Intersection_Map.pdf

511Virginia

Real-time information about scheduled lane closures in this work zone can be found on 511Virginia.

Download the <u>free mobile 511 app</u> for Apple and Android devices to stay connected, or visit <u>www.511virginia.org</u>. Motorists also can reach 511Virginia by calling 511 from any phone in Virginia

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VDOT's 14-county Fredericksburg District includes the counties of Caroline, King George, Spotsylvania and Stafford in the Fredericksburg area; Northumberland, Richmond, Lancaster and Westmoreland counties in the Northern Neck; Essex, Gloucester, King & Queen, King William, Mathews and Middlesex counties in the Middle Peninsula.