

MEDIA ADVISORY

VirginiaDOT.org

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CONTACT: Jordan-Ashley Walker 24-Hour Media Line: 757-956-3032

hamptonroadspublicinfo@vdot.virginia.gov

VDOT CREWS REMAIN VIGILANT AS HURRICANE DORIAN MOVES THROUGH HAMPTON ROADS

Motorists encouraged to limit travel, plan ahead

SUFFOLK – The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) Hampton Roads District remains vigilant as staff continues to monitor the outlying weather impacts for the region.

Although no major incidents have been reported on state-maintained roads at this time, VDOT crews stand at the ready to respond to any unsafe traveling conditions as a result of Hurricane Dorian -- particularly around high tide later this afternoon.

Road-clearing crews and Safety Service Patrols will work around the clock to keep roads as clear and safe as possible, as weather conditions allow. Safety of the traveling public and VDOT employees and contractors is VDOT's top priority.

Motorists are encouraged to limit their travel through the day and to be prepared for changing conditions.

Road conditions can be monitored in real time through the free VDOT 511 tools, including the 511VA mobile app and www.511Virginia.org site. Residents may report any problems such as flooding, downed trees, or road hazards to VDOT's Customer Service Center at 1-800-FOR-ROAD (367-7623) or by visiting my.vdot.virginia.gov

TRAVEL UPDATES

- Debris and tree removal crews are on standby.
- Due to the possibility of standing/ponding water, motorists should be aware of potential closures on Route 17 at the James River Bridge, and other areas prone to flooding. Do not drive through flooded roadways, and do not go around signs or barriers.

- The speed limits of the HRBT and the MMMBT have been reduced due to weather conditions. VDOT has no plans to close the HRBT or MMMBT at this time. If plans change, you will see an alert from VDOT. (As a reminder, VDOT does not operate the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel.)
- Travelers should expect potentially reduced or suspended service at the Jamestown-Scotland Ferry on Friday due to forecasted weather and tidal conditions. Motorists should plan an alternate route.
- I-64 Express Lanes in both directions closed Sept. 5 at 11 p.m. and will remain closed until the storm passes.
- Lane closures not related to storm activities have been restricted on all interstates and major primaries.
- The VDOT Hampton Roads District has opened an area command center beginning at 12 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 5 to coordinate and direct the agency's response to regional impacts from Hurricane Dorian. The command center will operate around the clock until the storm has passed.

HOW TO STAY UPDATED

- Updates will also be posted to the District's social media channels at Twitter, Facebook and Nextdoor.
- Real-time road conditions and interstate cameras are available at <u>511Virginia.org</u>.

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