



NEWS RELEASE

VirginiaDOT.org

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SOUTH FORK BRIDGE AND INNOVATIVE NEW INTERSECTION OPENING IN WARREN COUNTY

STAUNTON – Major traffic-pattern changes will take place in October and November 2017 as the new South Fork Shenandoah River bridge project nears completion in Warren County. The project includes Virginia’s first Quadrant Roadway Intersection (QRI), located at Route 340/522 (Shenandoah Avenue) and Route 55 (Strasburg Road). VDOT has launched a new website and scheduled public-outreach meetings to help familiarize drivers with this unique traffic pattern.

Here’s what you need to know:

- The portion of Route 55 between Route 340/522 and Quadrant Road will close for paving from October 2-13, 2017. Quadrant Road will serve as a detour route. VDOT will offer additional information about this closure in late September.
- Final paving takes place throughout October 2017 on Route 340/522, Route 55 and Quadrant Road. This requires flagger traffic control weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and overnight from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m.
- In mid-November, the QRI and all six lanes of the new South Fork bridge go into full operation.

Two public meetings will focus on the South Fork/QRI project and related traffic changes:

- Thursday, September 28, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Warren County Government Center, 220 North Commerce Avenue, Front Royal, VA 22630.
- Friday, September 29, from 3:15 to 6:30 p.m. at A. S. Rhodes Elementary School, 224 West Strasburg Road, Front Royal, VA 22630.

VDOT will share traffic-simulation videos, maps and other helpful information about the new intersection. These materials are also available on a dedicated website: QRIVirginia.org.



The QRI was chosen for this congested area because it handles more vehicles and offers fewer delays than a conventional four-way signalized intersection. This is achieved by moving left-turns away from the intersection of Route 340/522 and Route 55, and relocating them to the intersections with Quadrant Road. The QRI provides substantially more green-light time for north-south traffic on Route 340/522, which is the dominant pattern at this intersection.

The new Route 340/522 bridge crosses the South Fork of the Shenandoah River and the Norfolk Southern railway. The bridge is 1,910 feet long with two southbound lanes, two northbound through-lanes and two northbound left-turn lanes. There are also bicycle lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the structure. It replaces a four-lane bridge that was built in 1941.

The Commonwealth Transportation Board awarded a \$48.4 million construction contract to G.A. & F.C. Wagman Inc. of York, Pa., in October 2013. The project has a contract completion date of December 1, 2017. Additional information is available on the VDOT project page at http://www.virginiadot.org/projects/staunton/warren_county_8211_south_fork_bridge_route_34_0-522.asp.

All work is weather permitting, and the opening schedule is subject to change.

Traffic alerts and traveler information can be obtained by dialing 511. Traffic alerts and traveler information also are available at <http://www.511Virginia.org>.

The VDOT Customer Service Center can assist with reporting road hazards, asking transportation questions, or getting information related to Virginia's roads. Call 800-FOR-ROAD (800-367-7623) or use its mobile friendly website at <https://my.vdot.virginia.gov/>. Agents are available 24 hours-a-day, seven days a week.

The Staunton District Twitter feed is at @VaDOTStaunton. VDOT can be followed on Facebook, Flickr, Twitter and YouTube. RSS feeds are also available for statewide information. The VDOT Web page is located at <http://www.VirginiaDOT.org>.

The VDOT Staunton District serves Frederick, Shenandoah, Clarke, Warren, Page, Rockingham, Augusta, Highland, Rockbridge, Alleghany and Bath counties.

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