



The Delaware River and Bay Authority

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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New Baltimore Ramp Set to Open from U.S. Route 13NB to I-295SB *Marks End of Stage 2 of I-295 Southbound Project; Final Stage Begins in August*

NEW CASTLE, Del. – Today, Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) officials announced that the new Baltimore Ramp from U.S. Route 13NB to I-295SB will open to traffic on Sunday evening, July 15, 2018 between 10:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. The completion of this new ramp ends a two-plus year detour that guided motorists onto I-295NB to U.S. Route 9NB and then onto I-295SB. In the event of inclement weather, the opening date for the new ramp will be postponed to Monday evening, July 16, 2018.

“The I-295 southbound reconstruction project remains on schedule,” said Brent Van Lith, senior project engineer. “With about 25% of the project remaining, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.” The goal of the whole reconstruction project is to rehabilitate the approach to roads and ramps to improve the highway’s efficiency and safety while limiting the impact on the traffic patterns and the traveling public during the construction. At the conclusion of the project, I-295 southbound mainline traffic lanes will have 50% more capacity.

The final stage of the I-295 Southbound Reconstruction Project from Landers Lane to I-95 is expected to begin in August 2018. During this stage of construction, like the two preceding it, two southbound mainline through-lanes will be maintained at all times. While DRBA engineers have designed the project to minimize traffic delays to the largest extent possible, motorists should expect to experience delays, especially during peak travel time periods. The following traffic pattern changes can be expected during Stage 3:

-) The US 13 south to I-295 south ramp will be closed for a two week period to allow for reconstruction. Follow the detour: Take US 13 south to U-turn at I-295 north, US 13 north to I-295 south ramp. U-turn pavement will be added at the left turn along with a temporary traffic light.
-) Night time paving operations on I-295NB to reduce the vertical curve (dip) at the removed “Baltimore” ramp crossover bridge.
-) Traffic on I-295 south, between I-95 north ramp and I-95 south, will be shifted to the right to allow for reconstruction on the left lane and shoulder.

The safety of the traveling public, our highway contractors on-site, and our DRBA employees continue to be our highest priority. Commuters and travelers are urged to be careful and stay alert in and around construction zones, obey all detours and posted speed limits, and plan to take a few extra minutes during rush hour periods.

Mumford & Miller Concrete, Inc. of Middletown, Delaware is executing the reconstruction work at a cost of \$34 million. When highway construction work is substantially complete in December 2018, the Authority will have invested more than \$90 million to improve the region's infrastructure during the course of the I-295 Delaware Memorial Bridge Approach Road Rehabilitation program.

A detailed map of the I-295 Southbound Reconstruction project can be found at www.drba.net/295.aspx

About the Delaware River and Bay Authority

The DRBA, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, owns and operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May- Lewes Ferry, and the Forts Ferry Crossing. The DRBA also manages corporate and aviation properties through its economic development powers - two airports in New Jersey (Millville Airport and Cape May Airport) and three in Delaware (New Castle Airport, Civil Air Terminal and Delaware Airpark). All DRBA operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry and airport facilities. For more information, visit www.drba.net.