Traffic Advisory

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Oct. 3, 2016

TWO LANES OPEN AT U.S. 58 EAST MIDTOWN TUNNEL DURING MORNING RUSH HOUR
Motorists should stay alert for a new traffic pattern in Portsmouth

PORTSMOUTH – This morning, the Elizabeth River Tunnels (ERT) Project team opened the second lane of the U.S. 58 East Midtown Tunnel, doubling the tunnel’s capacity for Portsmouth to Norfolk travel during morning rush hour. Both lanes of the eastbound tunnel will remain open from 5 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. each weekday through the end of rehabilitation.

Motorists should stay alert for a new traffic pattern entering the eastbound tunnel:
- Traffic traveling from V.A. 164 East and the West Norfolk Bridge will approach the tunnel in the left lane.
- Traffic traveling from U.S. 58 East and Downtown Portsmouth will approach the tunnel in the right lane.

Changing lanes inside the tunnel is prohibited and will also be restricted at the tunnel’s exit on the Norfolk side. Depending on their destination in Norfolk, motorists will need to decide which lane to use before the tunnel entrance in Portsmouth:
- Traffic heading to Brambleton Avenue and Downtown Norfolk should stay in the right lane prior to entering the tunnel.
- Traffic traveling to Hampton Boulevard should stay in the left lane prior to entering the tunnel.

Motorists should expect the U.S. 58 East Midtown Tunnel to continue single lane closures outside of weekday morning rush hour, as well anticipate full weekend tunnel closures while construction continues.

Full weekend closures of the U.S. 58 East Midtown Tunnel are expected to continue, excluding holidays, until Q1 2017. U.S. 58 West traffic will not be impacted. When rehabilitation of the U.S. 58 East Midtown Tunnel is complete, it will look similar to the rehabilitated Downtown Tunnels.

A schedule of construction-related closures and alternate routes can be found on DriveERT.com. Motorists should visit www.511Virginia.org, call 511 or the VDOT Traffic Information Line at 757-361-3016, and listen to the Hampton Roads Highway Advisory Radio (HAR) 1680 AM for current traffic and travel information. For more information, visit http://www.DriveERT.com or follow us on Twitter @DriveERT.

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