## **I-77 Express Lanes:**

## **April 2017 Construction Update**

Progress on the I-77 Express Lanes continues and is on track to help make travel easier in the Charlotte and Lake Norman region. Below is a look at the construction activities slated for April:

- As work continues on the I-77 Express Lanes project, motorists will notice a change in their daily commute with the closure of the northbound High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane from the I-85/I-77 interchange to the I-485/I-77 interchange in Charlotte. Closing the northbound HOV lane between the I-85/I-77 interchange to the I-485/I-77 interchange allows crews to create space to work on the future direct connector at the Lakeview Road overpass and the median. The closure will begin Friday, April 7 with restriping of lanes and continue with the setting of temporary safety barrier each day along this segment until the closure is complete. Two locations will be designated on I-77 northbound for motorists to safely pull over if necessary (see map below with the red dots indicating the breakdown locations). The first location will be north of mile marker 15 between Cindy Lane and Sunset Road. The second location will be near mile marker 17 just before the Lakeview Road overpass. When the project is complete, the HOV lanes will become part of the I-77 Express Lanes.



- Overnight detours continue near uptown Charlotte between the I-85/I-77 interchange and the Brookshire Freeway/I-77 interchange to continue work on the Oaklawn Avenue bridge area and pedestrian bridge demolition north of LaSalle Street.
- Placement of temporary safety barrier continues from south of Exit 23 (Gilead Road) in Huntersville to the I-485 interchange.
- Crews completed the first phase of construction of the pedestrian culvert in the median of I-77 just north of Exit 23 in Huntersville. This culvert will provide space under I-77 for a future greenway
- Crews are making great strides in asphalt operations from Exit 25 (Sam Furr Road) in Huntersville to Exit 28 (Catawba Avenue) in Cornelius.
- Crews continue working on grading and drainage on the northern segment of the project between Exit 28 in Cornelius and Exit 36 (Plaza Drive) in Mooresville. Crews also are making progress on the widening of a bridge over Lake Norman north of Exit 33.
- Construction of the foundation of the new Griffith Street bridge in the median of I-77 at Exit 30 is complete. Crews are mobilizing now to the northwest and northeast corners of the bridge to continue with construction of the end bents. The new and improved bridge will contain bike lanes and sidewalks.

The majority of the I-77 Express Lanes 26-mile project will be under construction during 2017. Safety is our number one goal. Motorists are encouraged to pay attention when approaching the work zone, obey the posted speed limit and work zone signs, and allow extra time to reach their destinations safely.

Throughout the construction process, I-77 Mobility Partners and contractor Sugar Creek Construction seek to minimize the impact of traffic changes by scheduling specific activities during non-peak drive times.

A variety of bid opportunities are available for interested companies. If you know of anyone interested, please ask them to visit the contracting opportunities section on our website for details on how to apply.



Lake Norman bridge widening area



Pedestrian culvert north of Exit 23 Gilead Rd. in Huntersville





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