

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION MEDIA ALERT

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GEORGIA DOT REMINDS HOLIDAY TRAVELERS TO EXPECT DELAYS, PLAN AHEAD AND CALL 511

ATLANTA—Memorial Day weekend kicks off the summer travel season and the Georgia Department of Transportation is advising motorists to expect delays, plan ahead and be patient.

“We anticipate a very busy travel weekend,” said Georgia DOT Commissioner Gerald Ross. “Traffic congestion on Thursday and Friday will be heavier than normal, with rush hour beginning as early as 1:00 p.m. in high-volume areas.”

In metro Atlanta, those areas include, but are not limited to the following areas:

- I-75/85 southbound (Downtown Connector)
- I-285 on the top end
- SR 400 in both directions
- I-85 in Gwinnett County
- I-75 in Cobb County
- I-75 Southbound in Clayton and Henry counties

Additionally – motorists traveling westbound along I-16 from Savannah may experience delays related to Tuesday’s incident where a tractor trailer hauling an excavator struck the State Route 257 bridge overpass. I-16 westbound traffic is detoured off the interstate at US 441 Bypass Exit 51 to SR 257 and back to I-16. The detour will remain in place until maintenance crews can complete basic repairs to the overpass so that it is safe to drive under it.

As a reminder, Georgia DOT will suspend construction-related lane closures on all interstates and major state routes from 5a.m. Friday, May 22 until 10 p.m., Monday, May 25.

Permanent lane closure may also be in place on I-85 in Meriwether and Coweta counties, I-75 in South Georgia and I-95 on the coast. Also, incident management or emergency maintenance-related lane closures could become necessary on any route.

Check the maps on www.georgia-navigator.com for current road conditions, or call 511 on any phone for free, real-time traffic information. Traveler information is also available at www.511ga.org and a toll-free number for callers from outside the state, 1-877-MYGA511 (1-877-694-2511).

Georgia 511 provides statewide traffic conditions, route-specific information and estimated travel times within metro Atlanta. Additionally, 511 callers can access transit providers, major

airports, rideshare organizations, Georgia tourism information and 511 systems in neighboring states.

For those preparing to fly, 511 connects callers to airports in Atlanta and Savannah for information on parking, delays or connections to carriers. An automated voice recognition system guides the service, but callers can also reach live operators to report accidents or congestion, request HERO assistance or obtain additional information.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia's economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

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