

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MEDIA ALERT

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

ATLANTA— With Christmas Day falling on a Friday, the Georgia Department of Transportation anticipates more travelers than usual during the holiday week. Motorists should expect congestion near malls and retail centers throughout the week.

“We anticipate heavy traffic throughout the metro Atlanta area beginning Wednesday around noon” said Georgia DOT Commissioner Vance C. Smith, Jr. “Mall and retail center traffic will be particularly congested. Additionally, many travelers will be returning home over the weekend.”

In metro Atlanta, high congestion 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

As a reminder, Georgia DOT will suspend construction-related lane closures on all interstates and major state routes from 5a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23 until Mon. Dec. 28 at 5 a.m.

Closures 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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