



## **Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority**

One East Shore Road | P.O. Box 437 | Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-0437

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 8, 2017**

# **NEWPORT PELL BRIDGE DECK REPAIR Project Update**

**JAMESTOWN, R.I.** – [The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority \(RITBA\)](#) would like to provide the following update on the Newport Pell Bridge deck repair project. The project is moving along smoothly and on schedule. This phase of the deck repair work in the westbound travel lanes is now complete. The contractor has removed the concrete deck down to the rebar and fresh concrete has been poured. As the concrete hardens, core samples will be taken and tested. This section of the bridge will remain closed until the concrete achieves the proper strength and density and passes official testing. Once this happens the contractor will perform a “switchover” moving construction to the eastbound lanes and open up the westbound lanes with the new concrete deck to traffic.

This switchover of work to the “other side” of the bridge will require a traffic pattern change. Single travel lanes in each direction will still be required. Traffic cones and markers will be repositioned to guide motorists through the construction zone.

This switchover of construction and traffic will depend on weather and temperatures through the weekend, as these factors will affect the time it takes for the concrete to harden. It is currently anticipated that the switchover will take place on Tuesday (6/13).

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RITBA is thankful to the many people who have changed their commuting times and many companies that have provided their employees the flexibility to alter their work schedules. These types of behavioral changes have been critical in helping reduce the traffic congestions. RITBA also wants to thank the users for their patience during the deck repair project.

“Outside of the weekday morning and evening rush hours, we have seen the traffic flow as usual. People should continue to visit and enjoy Aquidneck Island with its many fine restaurants and hotels, retail shops, and top-notch tourist attractions” stated Buddy Croft, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority.

This phase of the project with permanent 24/7 single travel lanes in each direction is scheduled until Thursday, June 29. From June 29 through September 18, there will be no permanent lane closures, as work for this project will be done beneath the bridge via barge. Permanent 24/7 single travel lanes in each direction will resume on Tuesday, September 19.

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