



Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 24, 2017

TRAFFIC ADVISORY ALERT Notice for Newport Pell Deck Repair Project

JAMESTOWN, R.I. – [The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority \(RITBA\)](http://www.ritba.org) would like to provide the following advisory on construction activity for the Newport Pell Bridge in regards to the recently announced deck repair project.

There will not be any construction activity or lane closures during the three day Memorial Day weekend from Saturday, May 27 through Monday, May 29. RITBA expects the traffic delays to begin Tuesday, May 30. This will be due to the new traffic pattern and permanent 24/7 single travel lanes in each direction and the eastbound Open Road Tolling lane closure. Tuesday, May 30 is the first work day after Memorial Day weekend. Motorists traveling over the Newport Pell Bridge should anticipate delays, and RITBA urges users to plan their commutes accordingly. “There will be an increased police presence to aid in mitigating traffic, and we ask those who use the bridge to consider changing their travel times to avoid traveling over the bridge during peak rush hours. If schedule allows, leaving a little earlier or later than usual will help us immensely” said Buddy Croft, RITBA Executive Director.

As a reminder, the permanent 24/7 single travel lanes in each direction are 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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All commercial and private commercial truck entities that utilize oversized and overweight vehicles should keep in mind that the following vehicles are prohibited from crossing the Newport Pell Bridge:

- Overwide Vehicles
 - Width exceeding 8 feet 6 inches
 - Prohibited May 15 through June 29
 - Prohibited September through December 22
- Overweight Vehicles
 - Gross vehicle weight (GVW) over 80,000 pounds
 - Prohibited May 15 through December

To plan your commute and stay ahead of the traffic you can access up-to-date information on construction activity and real-time traffic, by visiting RITBA's website at RITBA.org. This site provides the latest information concerning lane closures, construction activity and traffic delays for the Newport Pell, Jamestown Verrazzano, Mount Hope and Sakonnet River Bridges, in addition to the RT. 138 Connector.

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