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CONTACT: Marcia McAllister
703-572-0506
marcia.mcallister@dullesmetro.com

Metrorail construction trucks to use I-66 inside the Beltway starting next week

Beginning on or about Monday, Oct. 20, rail project construction trucks will begin using I-66 inside the Capital Beltway during restricted hours during the day and at night.

Trucks will not be allowed on I-66 when HOV restrictions are in place.

The Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project has been granted approval by the Virginia Department of Transportation to allow trucks to use I-66, west of Route 29 (Lee Highway) during these hours:

- between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Monday through Friday
- between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. Sunday through Thursday
- between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekends

Trucks traveling eastbound on I-66 from rail construction sites will use the Lee Highway exit and Washington Boulevard to turn around and head westbound on I-66.

This traffic pattern will enable trucks to transport materials to and from rail construction sites along I-66 until the work is completed in 2012. This agreement also extends to the use of the Dulles Connector Road.

VDOT and Arlington and Fairfax counties have agreed on details of the plan, including specific limits on the numbers of trucks to be permitted. Up to 74 trucks per day will be permitted to use the Lee Highway interchange for the rest of 2009. In 2010, that number will rise to 76. In 2011, the number will drop to 36 per day and in 2012, the number allowed will be 25.

Approximately 25 percent of the trucks will operate at night. An average of 14 trucks per hour is expected on I-66 and Lee Highway between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. on weekdays.

(More)

Motorists should use caution and watch for trucks using Fairfax Drive, Lee Highway and Washington Boulevard near the I-66/Lee Highway interchange.

Dulles Metrorail Project work along I-66 includes the extension's tie-in to the existing Orange Line tracks between the existing East and West Falls Church Metro Stations. Some new tracks will also be built in this area.

All construction work is weather permitting and subject to change. For construction-related emergencies, call the Project Hotline at 877-585-6789. For information about the project, visit www.dullesmetro.com or call 703-572-0506.

