



construction update

contract A

Updating you on Contract A Activities:
I-270/I-370 to MD 97 (Georgia Avenue)

ICC Progress Continues: Paving Begins on ICC Travel Lanes

Contract A (I-370/I-270 to MD 97) of the Intercounty Connector (ICC) is more than 57 percent complete and expected to open fall 2010. Contract A work continues this fall with paving of the first few miles of the ICC mainline travel lanes.



New roadway paving between Muncaster Mill Road and North Branch Stream Valley Park.

ICC crews have begun construction of the more than five miles of sound barriers designed to help mitigate sound impacts to communities in Contract A. Most barriers are being constructed west to east. Barrier posts are in place in some areas without the panels because additional fill dirt is required to reach the final elevation for the roadway. Once final grading is complete, the sound barrier panels can be placed in the remaining areas.



Sound barriers installed on the north and south side of Contract A of the ICC north of I-370.

Temporary traffic switches remain in place on I-370 near Shady Grove Road, Needwood Road, Emory Lane and Georgia Avenue as bridge construction continues along these local roads. The Redland Road bridge over the ICC is complete and the final alignment is in place.

Anticipated Fall Traffic Switches:

- ◆ Shady Grove Road: SHA will switch traffic for westbound Shady Grove Road drivers destined for westbound I-370. The new traffic pattern is part of the interchange pattern that will access I-370 and ultimately, the ICC. After the shift, westbound Shady Grove Road traffic will access I-370 westbound by making a left at a new traffic signal. Motorists will merge with the eastbound Shady Grove Road ramp traffic, which will enter the new ramp from the right. Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) and the contractor will alert motorists of the new traffic pattern using portable message signs two weeks in advance of the switch.
- ◆ Needwood Road: Traffic will shift onto the new bridge this fall.
- ◆ Muncaster Mill Road (MD 115): Construction crews have temporarily shifted traffic slightly to the west of existing Muncaster Mill Road to clear the way for the bridge construction. This pattern is similar to the one used for the construction of the Redland and Needwood Road bridges. The ICC will ultimately pass beneath MD 115.
- ◆ Georgia Avenue (MD 97): Crews will switch northbound Georgia Avenue traffic to the new bridge this fall. While the southbound bridge is under construction, southbound traffic will shift into the former median area.

SHA Continues Environmental Stewardship Activities: Turtle Update

SHA continues to protect the eastern box turtle on the ICC project. The environmental team works with the Mid-Atlantic Turtle and Tortoise Society (MATTS) and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) to keep the local turtle population safe during the construction and in its natural environment.

This year, an additional 50 new turtles have been rescued; 11 previously marked turtles have been recaptured and 17 juvenile and rehabilitated turtles have been released into a safe habitat in Contract A. The juveniles and injured turtles were in the care of MATTS until they were healthy and able to survive on their own. To date, ICC project staff and volunteers have saved nearly 400 eastern box turtles, along with numerous other turtles including painter turtles, red-eared sliders and snapping turtles.

Crews have placed special orange fencing around the ICC construction to prevent turtles from entering the site. However, disturbances of the fencing can create gaps that allow these turtles to return to inside the fencing and back in harm's way. Your cooperation is necessary to help save the turtles by not disturbing the fencing, or reminding others not to disturb it. Regardless, for your safety please remain outside the orange fencing at all times. The turtle initiative is part of the SHA's extensive \$370 million ICC environmental program, which is 15 percent of the project's overall budget.

Speeding in Work Zones is Dangerous—SHA/ICC Team Cautions You to Slow Down

As ICC construction activity intensifies, motorists will need to increase their awareness of work zones. The SHA/ICC team reminds drivers to slow down in work zones and be alert to ensure the safety for both workers and drivers.

Construction crews use concrete barriers, temporary crash cushions, barrels, temporary traffic signs and variable message boards to alert and guide motorists through work zones. SHA reminds motorists to Choose Safety for Life and "Think Orange" as they drive through work zones.

Contact Us

To learn more about the ICC, visit our project Website at www.iccproject.com. To save paper and receive this and other project information electronically, send a request to iccproject@sha.state.md.us.

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