Temporary Closure of the Executive Blvd. at Old Georgetown Road Intersection

Overview:

This Special Edition Newsletter is to inform the traveling public and County residents that the intersection of Executive Boulevard at Old Georgetown Road will be completely closed to vehicle traffic starting on or about March 1, 2021. This temporary closure and detour will remain in place for approximately five (5) months.

Prior to the intersection closure, MCDOT and its prime contractor, Corman Kokosing Construction Co. will ensure that the new section of Grand Park Avenue between Old Georgetown Road and Banneker Avenue is open to traffic. In addition, the scheduled improvements along Executive Blvd. between Nicholson Lane and Banneker Avenue will be completed before the intersection closure. The opening of Grand Park Avenue and the improvements to Executive Blvd. will lessen the impact to traffic getting to the Conference Center and Pike & Rose residences and businesses.

Closure Duration and Necessity:

Per Corman Kokosing’s approved schedule, the Contractor will close the Executive Blvd/Old Georgetown Road intersection from approximately March 1, 2021, until approximately July 5, 2021. Work hours will be from 6:00 am until 10:00 pm Monday through Friday. NO overnight shift is planned at this time.

The primary reasons for closing the intersection are safety and timing. Several frictions have put Corman Kokosing behind schedule, but the most pressing factor has been and remains safety. Safety-wise, the Contractor has faced the following:

- A Crew Foreman in the work area adjacent to the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Executive Boulevard was fatally injured after being struck by a car as he was climbing out of a manhole.
- Numerous “near misses” involving vehicles proceeding through red lights for both Old Georgetown Road and Executive Boulevard; vehicles exceeding the posted limits and making dangerous lane changes in the intersection; citizens entering the work areas protected by barrels, cones, and concrete “Jersey Barrier” walls.
Other frictions have contributed to schedule delays. Every major utility, PEPCO, Verizon, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), has felt the impacts of COVID-19. Each company’s administrative, including management, and their field/construction staffs have suffered through quarantines halting crucial operations that have impacted Corman Kokosing’s Critical Path Method (CPM) Schedule. The project has also been impacted by utility scheduling and performance issues not caused by COVID-19.

**Closure Limits and Detour Plan:**

MCDOT and MDOT/SHA have approved the following configuration:

- Eastbound traffic on Executive Blvd. ends at the traffic signal for 6000 Executive Blvd.;
- Eastbound traffic on Executive Blvd. working to get to southbound Rockville Pike (MD Rte.355) from Montrose Parkway should stay on Montrose Parkway and avoid Executive Blvd. completely;
- Westbound Executive Blvd. becomes Grand Park Avenue at the Marinelli Road intersection;
- Grand Park Avenue continues past Banneker Avenue onto the newly opened section of Grand Park Avenue;
- Southbound traffic on Old Georgetown Road coming from Rockville Pike can only go as far as Grand Park Avenue;
- Localized southbound traffic on Old Georgetown Road coming from Rockville Pike will have access to the PALLAS Apartment Parking Garage and to the T-Mobile parking lot;
- Northbound traffic on Grand Park Avenue will be able to access Pike & Rose and/or continue on to Towne Road by turning left on Rose Avenue or, by turning right, proceed to Rockville Pike (MD Rte.355);
- Northbound traffic on Old Georgetown Road will be required to make a right turn on to Nicholson Lane or a left turn onto Tilden Lane;
- Local northbound traffic on Old Georgetown Road will get no further than the service entrance to the MNCPPC Aquatic Center and Wall Park;
- Though traffic northbound on Old Georgetown Road should use Nicholson Lane to get to northbound MD Rte.355;
- Though not formally part of the Executive Boulevard/Old Georgetown Road intersection, Towne Road will be closed off at the “bulb” of the cul-de-sac; traffic will only be able to proceed as far as the PALLAS Apartment Garage entrance.

Local traffic on Executive Blvd. will have no problem accessing the medical offices and other businesses down to 6000 and 6001 Executive Blvd; traffic moving in and out of the 6001 Executive Blvd. offices from Towne Road will continue to enter and exit unimpeded.