



Charleston County News Release

Release Number: 3498

Release Date: September 20, 2012

Project website: http://www.ccradwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/index.php

Project area map: http://www.ccradwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/index.php

Traffic Alert: Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Project Construction Update – Ramp/Lane Closures and Traffic Shifts Continue Through Oct. 26

Drivers should expect to navigate through lane and ramp closures and traffic shifts, and encounter temporary delays as construction crews continue installing underground drainage pipes, curb and gutter, and preparing and placing asphalt for the [Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Improvements Project](#) in Mount Pleasant. All construction areas will be marked with construction cones and signs.

The following, previously announced, road work on the project will continue through Friday, Oct. 26:

Details of Bowman Road traffic shifts:

- The traffic shifts will occur from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m., and will affect drivers in both directions on Bowman Road, from Marsh Court Lane (at McDonald's restaurant) to West Frontage Road (at former East Cooper Hospital).
- The shifts are necessary to install curb and gutter, sidewalks, asphalt and conduct other construction activities.
- All construction areas and traffic shifts will be marked with construction cones and signs.
- All work is dependent on the weather.

Details of Bowman Road ramp closures:

- The following Bowman Road ramps will be closed nightly from 9 p.m. – 6 a.m. (*note: only one ramp will be closed at any given time*):
 - Entrance ramp onto southbound Johnnie Dodds Boulevard from Bowman Road (next to Arby's restaurant).
 - Entrance ramp onto northbound Johnnie Dodds Boulevard from Bowman Road (next to McDonald's restaurant).
 - Exit ramp from southbound Johnnie Dodds Boulevard onto Bowman Road (next to the former East Cooper hospital).
 - Exit ramp from northbound Johnnie Dodds Boulevard onto Bowman Road (next to Blockbuster and Nason Medical Center).
- During the nightly ramp closures, all traffic will be detoured to either East Frontage Road or West Frontage Road.
- All construction areas and detours will be marked with construction cones and signs.
- The ramp closures are necessary so crews can work on the interchange.

Details of lane closures:

Johnnie Dodds Boulevard Nighttime Lane Closures:

- Drivers should expect temporary, nighttime lane closures for three miles on Johnnie Dodds Boulevard (U.S. Highway 17) from the end of the Arthur Ravenel, Jr. Bridge to I-526.
- Construction activity will occur from 9 p.m. - 6 a.m. in an effort to reduce the impact on drivers.
- The speed limit on Johnnie Dodds Boulevard **is reduced from 45 mph to 35 mph** in the construction zone.

East Frontage Road

- Daytime Lane Closures:

- Drivers should expect temporary, daytime lane closures on East Frontage Road from McGrath Darby Boulevard to Bowman Road.
- For areas with low traffic volumes, the construction activity could occur as early as 6 a.m. until 4 p.m. Lane closures in areas of high traffic will be delayed until 8:30 a.m.
- Drivers will have access to businesses along East Frontage Road at all times during construction.
- **Nighttime Road Closures:**
 - Drivers should expect minor, nighttime road closures from 8 p.m. - 6 a.m. due to eastbound and westbound road closures of East Frontage Road from McGrath Darby Boulevard to Bowman Road.
 - The daily starting time of this closure may be delayed until 9 p.m. if traffic is heavy.

West Frontage Road

- **Daytime Lane Closures:**
 - Drivers should expect temporary, daytime lane closures on West Frontage Road from Mathis Ferry Road to Bowman Road.
 - For areas with low traffic volumes, the construction activity could occur as early as 6 a.m. until 4 p.m. Lane closures in areas of high traffic will be delayed until 8:30 a.m.
 - Drivers will have access to businesses along West Frontage Road at all times during construction.
- **Nighttime Road Closures:**
 - Drivers should expect minor, nighttime road closures from 8 p.m. - 6 a.m. due to eastbound and westbound road closures of West Frontage Road from Mathis Ferry Road to Bowman Road.
 - The daily starting time of this closure may be delayed until 9 p.m. if traffic is heavy.

Bowman Road Closure Over Shem Creek:

As previously announced, the current phase of the project includes the temporary closure of the portion of Bowman Road that goes over Shem Creek (between McDonald's and Kmart on Bowman Road) while crews replace the small bridge. This closure to Bowman Road began on Monday, April 16, and should reopen within the next few weeks (media will be notified when this occurs). Construction areas will continue to be marked with traffic control devices and signs as they are now.

Drivers will be detoured as follows:

- Those traveling east on Bowman (going from Johnnie Dodds Boulevard toward Chuck Dawley Boulevard) should use this detour: http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/docs/1.pdf
- Those traveling west on Bowman Road (from Kmart toward Johnnie Dodds Boulevard) should use this detour: http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/docs/4.pdf
- Those traveling south on Johnnie Dodds Boulevard heading east on Bowman Road should use this detour: http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/docs/2.pdf
- Those traveling north on Johnnie Dodds Boulevard heading east on Bowman Road should use this detour: http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/docs/3.pdf

Drivers traveling through the project's construction zone are asked to be aware of equipment and crews working in the area at all times. Drivers are encouraged to go slow and allow additional time to reach their destinations safely.

Alternative routes are recommended if possible. The public is also asked to notice traffic control signs, reductions in speed limit and message board information, and to note that all road work is dependent on the weather.

The goal of the project, which is expected to be completed in the spring of 2013, is to improve the traffic flow in and out of Mount Pleasant, especially before and after school and work hours. The project is funded by the [Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax](#) and managed by [Charleston County Government's](#) RoadWise Program, in close coordination with the [Town of Mount Pleasant](#) and the [S.C. Department of Transportation](#).

The public can get up-to-date project information, including construction status and traffic alerts, online at http://www.ccroadwise.org/projects/johnnie_dodds/index.php.

- Follow us on Twitter -

"ChasCountyGov" (www.twitter.com/ChasCountyGov) for all County news and information
 "ccroadwise" (www.twitter.com/ccroadwise) for traffic and road project information only



- written by Jennie Flinn -