Pentagon Update – January 2018
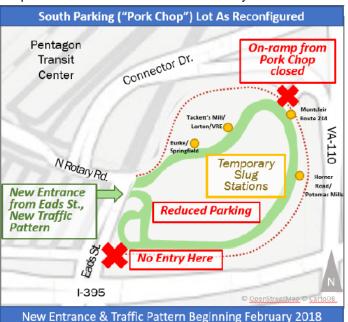
As published in the January 2018 Washington Headquarters Services Transportation Management Program Office Newsletter

Pentagon South Parking Lot Work Set to Begin in February, Traffic Patterns to Shift

Plans to begin work on the Pentagon Reservation's South Parking Lot "Pork Chop" area, an element of the 395 Express Lanes Project, remains on track to begin in February. The changes, which include a new traffic pattern, will improve the traffic flow and overall safety.

South Parking ("Pork Chop") Lot As Reconfigured

New Entrance & Traffic Pattern Beginning February 2018

Construction at the "Pork Chop," which is located east of Eads Street and north of I-395, includes the addition of bus-only travel lanes ("bus loop") and the reconfiguration of the "slug" lane. Slug lines will remain in the same order during construction, and temporary signage will be installed to direct drivers and pedestrians.

During and after construction, privately owned vehicles (POVs) will enter and exit the "Pork Chop" from Eads Street; the existing exit to VA-110 from the "Pork Chop" will permanently close to POVs. New pedestrian sidewalks with a barrier system, new signage, and pavement markings to clearly delineate the slug lanes will be added as part of the project. Please use caution around the construction zone and allow for extra travel time.

As a result of the structural improvements, some parking spaces will be eliminated. The WHS Parking Management Office (PMO) has been reallocating and reassigning permits to account for fewer parking spaces. For any parking questions, please call the WHS PMO at the Pentagon at 703-614-7271.

In addition to the South Parking Lot work, the 395 Express Lanes Project will convert the South Rotary Road drop-off/pick-up lane to a right-turn Express Lane entrance ramp. As part of the South Rotary Road work, crews will install gates along the South Rotary turn lane, and install traffic signals on Eads Street at North and South Rotary Roads.

To stay informed on the construction progress, lane closure notifications and travel alternatives, visit the 395 Express Lanes Project website – 395ExpressLanes.com/pentagon.

FSD Director's Message

As the new year begins, we anticipate new construction activities and traffic patterns on the Pentagon Reservation starting as early as February 2018 due to the 395 Express Lanes project. Stay alert and use caution around construction zones and allow for extra travel time. This is a good time to plan for commute alternatives. We will be hosting additional outreach events this year on travel options such as vanpools and carpools. Our transportation team will also provide updates as they become available on our website, Facebook (WHSTransportation) and Twitter (@WHS_Transport) to keep you informed. Please visit us and stay connected!

Try Transportation Alternatives

As construction begins in the South Parking "Pork Chop" Lot, Pentagon commuters should be prepared for impacts to their commutes. Those who drive alone may find their journeys to and from work affected by detours or additional traffic, even if you do not park at the "Pork Chop".

To beat rush hour traffic, now is a great time to try other transportation alternatives such as bus and Metro Rail service and ridesharing (carpooling/vanpooling/slugging). If you want to try vanpooling, the article on the next page shows you how vanpool works. Improvements to bus services to connect the Pentagon with Park and Ride lots are also in the works as part of the 395 Express Lanes project. Recently WMATA has added trips to some Pentagon commuter routes, including the 18J Orange Hunt and 18P Burk Center lines with service to Rolling Valley Park and Ride. PRTC will also begin four new Dale City-Pentagon/Rosslyn/Ballston OmniRide trips beginning Monday, January 22. For more information, please visit http://www.wmata.com and http://prtctransit.org/.

If you plan to continue to drive to work, you might also consider exploring an alternate route to your permitted parking area. Due to 395 Express Lanes construction and other projects on or near the Pentagon Reservation, traffic may force you to use these alternatives in the future.