



Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority

One East Shore Road | P.O. Box 437 | Jamestown, Rhode Island 02835-0437

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2017

RITBA CONSTRUCTION UPDATE FOR MARCH 20 Mount Hope and Sakonnet River Bridges

JAMESTOWN, R.I. – [The Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority \(RITBA\)](#) would like to provide the following traffic advisory update for construction activities kicking off on March 20, 2017 for the Mount Hope Bridge and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation's (RIDOT) demolition of the old Sakonnet River Bridge.

Mount Hope Bridge

- RITBA will begin paint and steel repair work on the bridge's south approach in addition to concrete work on deck walkways.
- This work will result in daily lane closures from 9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
- There will also be some limited night work on the bridge from 9:00 p.m.–5:00a.m., which will necessitate periodic lane closures.

Sakonnet River Bridge

- The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) began the process of removing the old Sakonnet River Bridge on Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

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- RITBA and RIDOT are cooperating with each other to efficiently coordinate the demolition work and to mitigate traffic impacts for motorists.
- To efficiently and effectively remove the old bridge, the DOT contractor will require access to the new bridge. This will be limited primarily to use of the new bridge shoulder on Route 24 south.
- The main construction access for the old bridge demolition will be from Route 24 south in Portsmouth just past the new bridge.
- Although the bike path will remain open during the demolition, individuals should proceed with caution as there will be brief periodic closures due to truck crossings.

To stay up-to-date and receive the latest on construction activity and real-time traffic, visit RITBA's traffic site at RITBA.org. This site provides the latest information concerning lane closures, construction activity and traffic delays for the Newport Pell, Jamestown Verrazzano, Mount Hope and Sakonnet River Bridges, in addition to the RT. 138 Connector.

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CONTACT:

Bianca Micheletti,

bmicheletti@rdwgroup.com

401.553.5167