Transform 66 Outside the Beltway

Briefing on Gallows Road Traffic Shift and Bridge Demolition

October 4, 2021
• There will be a brief presentation, followed by a question and answer session. Intended to be informal to provide additional information about what to expect with this upcoming work.

• Tonight’s session is being streamed live and recorded on our VDOT Live YouTube channel. The recording will be available tomorrow at outside.transform66.org/gallowsroad.

• Attendees will be muted to minimize background noise and ensure that people can hear.

• Overview of ground rules for question and answer portion of meeting.
Two express lanes
- HOV-3+ and buses travel free
- Non-HOV tolled
- Congestion-based tolls

Three regular lanes
- Open to all traffic
- No tolls
- Ramp-to-ramp connections between interchanges (auxiliary lanes)
- Safety, interchange, and operational improvements

New transit service and other multimodal improvements
- High-frequency, fast and reliable bus service during extended peak periods
- Park and ride facilities
- Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies
- Bicycle and pedestrian trail and improvements
**Project Roadmap**

**December 2017**
- Early Construction Activity

**Spring 2018**
- Construction Ramp-up
- *Starting Spring 2018*
- ROW Acquisition

**October 5, 2019**
- Park and Ride Milestone (960 Spaces near Gainesville)

**2019**
- Results of Noise, Environmental, and Traffic Analyses

**November 2020**
- Route 28 Signalization (Phased removal of four traffic signals from Route 28)

**Summer 2020**
- WMATA Shutdown of Metrorail Orange Line

**December 2022**
- Express Lanes Open
What is Being Built
- Building new Gallows Road Bridge over I-66 in two phases
- Widening bridge, shifting to the east, and improving bike and pedestrian access

Upcoming Traffic Shifts
- Northbound Gallows Road traffic will shift to the new Gallows Road North Bridge – *On/about the week of October 11*
- Southbound Gallows Road traffic will shift into a temporary alignment onto the new Gallows Road North Bridge over I-66 – *On/about the week of October 18*
- Pedestrian access will remain on the west side of the old Gallows Road Bridge until the southbound travel lanes are shifted on/about the week of October 18
- Once southbound travel lanes are shifted to the new Gallows Road Bridge, pedestrian access across I-66 will be on the east side of the new bridge
- This shift of travel lanes on Gallows Road does not impact the entrance at Stenwood Elementary; shift is south of the school entrance
• Demolition of the old Gallows Road Bridge over I-66 will begin on/about October 23, 2021, following the shift of all Gallows Road traffic to the new bridge

• To protect motorists and work crews, demolition work that occurs over I-66 travel lanes and the Dunn Loring Metrorail Station must be completed during overnight hours (typically between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m.), when multiple lanes of I-66 can be closed and it is safe to work over the Metrorail station and tracks

• Demolition work that does not occur over I-66 travel lanes will be completed during daytime hours, whenever possible

• Demolition of the bridge is anticipated to continue through late fall 2021, with approximately 30-40 nights of demolition needed, depending on weather and other factors
  • There will be no demolition work over the Thanksgiving holiday
Demolition of the old Gallows Road Bridge involves breaking up the concrete deck using jackhammers, saw cutters, and hoe rams, followed by removal of the steel bridge beams and concrete piers and abutments.

Demolition of the old Gallows Road Bridge consists of five spans:

- Demolition work will begin with Span 3 over the Dunn Loring Metrorail Station. The span over the station must be demolished with saw cutters to protect the station and rail tracks beneath. This work is closely coordinated with WMATA and must be done during the overnight hours.
- Following Span 3, crews will work to demolish the northern half of the old bridge (Spans 4, 5), followed by the southern half of the old bridge (Spans 1, 2).
- Span 4 over I-66 West, Span 2 over I-66 East, and the bridge piers can only be demolished during overnight hours when multi-lane closures on I-66 are allowed.
- Spans 1 and 5 and the old bridge abutments will be demolished during daytime hours.

Concrete Slab Removal: approximately 50% of demolition time for each span (involves use of jackhammers, saw cutters, and hoe rams)

Steel Girder Removal: approximately 50% of demolition time for each span (involves crane lifts to remove bridge beams)
Some demolition activities will generate unavoidable noise and other disruptions. The following measures will be taken to minimize impacts as much as feasible:

- Concrete will be hauled away to be processed off-site
- Work area lighting will be directed toward roadway and away from residences
- Dust control measures will be in place
- Construction vibrations and noise will be monitored

Updates on progress and upcoming activities will be posted to outside.transform66.org/gallowsroad as demolition progresses.

Overnight lane closures will occur nightly on I-66 East and West, near Gallows Road, as bridge demolition progresses. Information about lane closures and travel impacts will be posted at outside.transform66.org/workzones
Following demolition, construction of new bridge abutments begins with pile driving during daytime hours.

Construction of center bridge pier next to Dunn Loring Metrorail Station with drilling during overnight hours.

Construction of retaining walls on north and south abutments.

Set new bridge beams in place during overnight hours.

Bridge deck work.

Realignment of west side of Gallows Road approaching new bridge.*

Shift southbound lanes of Gallows Road to new bridge span.

Late Fall 2021

Winter 2022

Summer 2022

* Work to tie in the Stenwood Elementary School entrance to the permanent roadway alignment will be coordinated with the school.
During the weekend of October 1-4, two new ramps opened and travel lanes on Nutley Street over I-66 were shifted to allow construction of the new Nutley Street Interchange to advance

**Temporary traffic shift**
- Northbound lanes of Nutley Street are shifted to the west, with two travel lanes in each direction on the west side of the bridge over I-66
- Pedestrian access is detoured to west side of the bridge
- This traffic pattern will remain in place through approximately January 2022

**Opening of two permanent ramps**
- *Ramp from Nutley Street South to I-66 East* – drivers now access I-66 East from the right side of the roadway; drivers will no longer make a left turn at the temporary traffic signal to reach I-66 East
- *Ramp from Nutley Street North to I-66 West* – drivers now access I-66 West from the right side of the roadway; drivers will no longer make a left turn at the temporary traffic signal to reach I-66 West
Transform66.org website
• Section pages for 19 interchanges, overpasses, and features
• Project interactive map
• Lane closure information

Eblasts
• About five emails per week

Twitter
• Advisories, reminders, updates, and incidents

Direct points of contact
• In-person outreach: HOA/community briefings, direct phone/email from project team to residents
• Phone: FAM Construction Hotline, VDOT Customer Service Center, direct to project staff
• Email: transform66@vdot.virginia.gov, outreach@fam66.us, direct to project staff
WebEx Chat

• Type your question or comment into the Chat box and direct it to “Everyone”. Questions will be read aloud and answered in the order received.

• If you would like to ask your question aloud, type your name and that you would like to ask a question/provide comment in the Chat box. We will unmute and call on you when it is your turn.

• We will turn the Chat function “on and off” in intervals to keep up with questions and keep the process manageable.

• Participants will be able to see all messages that are sent to “Everyone”. Questions sent to the Host, Presenter, or an individual will not be seen by the panelists or other participants.

By Phone

• Press *3 to "raise your hand" and be added to the queue to ask your question.

• We will announce when it is your turn to ask your question and will unmute your phone line.

• You will hear "your line has been unmuted" after which you will be able to ask your question.

• After asking your question, please mute yourself and press *3 again to "lower your hand."
New law for 2021!
Handheld cell phone use while driving is illegal

THANK YOU!
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