

Construction Schedule

- Begin Construction - Winter 2009
- Anticipated Construction Complete - Fall 2011

Project Information

Project Information, maps and illustrations can be viewed and downloaded at www.marylandroads.com

- On the home page menu, select **Keeping Current**
- Click [Current Construction Projects](#)
- Click [SHA Projects Web Page](#)
- Select **Baltimore County/City** on the Maryland map
- Click [Baltimore Beltway Interchange at Charles Street \(MD 139\) Phase I](#)

Additional newsletters will be issued as construction progresses.

Questions?

If you have questions or concerns about construction work or traffic operations during the I-695/Charles Street Project, please contact:

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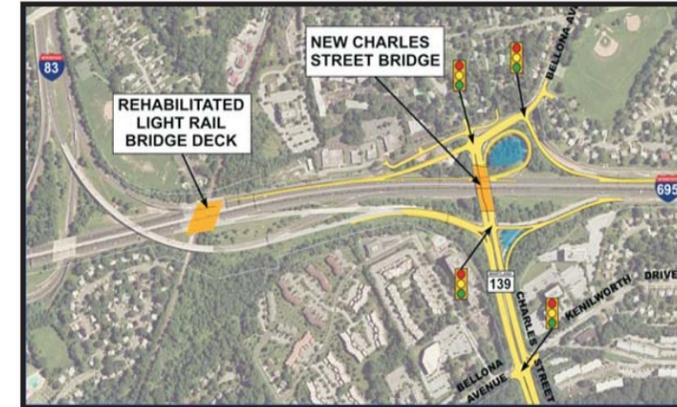


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PROJECT NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2009

Interchange Improvements To Begin Winter 2009



The State Highway Administration (SHA) has completed design for the Charles Street Interchange and will start construction this winter. Construction is expected to last about three years. Initial activities will include:

- Installation of Temporary Traffic Control Signs and Barriers
- Median Removal on Charles Street
- Temporary Ramp and Signal Construction on Charles Street
- Temporary Pavement Construction on I-695
- Clearing of Trees and Vegetation
- Installation of Erosion and Sediment Control Devices
- Excavation and Earth Moving

The New Bridge, Roadway and Streetscape Improvements

Conceptual Artistic Rendering of the Proposed Charles Street Bridge



Proposed Charles Street Looking Toward the Proposed Charles Street Bridge



Proposed Bellona Avenue Looking Toward the Proposed Traffic Signal at Charles Street

Similar to projects along I-695 at Reisterstown Road, York Road and Dulaney Valley Road, the new Charles Street Bridge will have an architectural finish, ornamental fencing and decorative lighting designed to enhance the Charles Street corridor. The bridge will have sidewalks and bicycle lanes, new turn lanes approaching Bellona Avenue, and will be longer than the existing bridge to accommodate future I-695 widening.

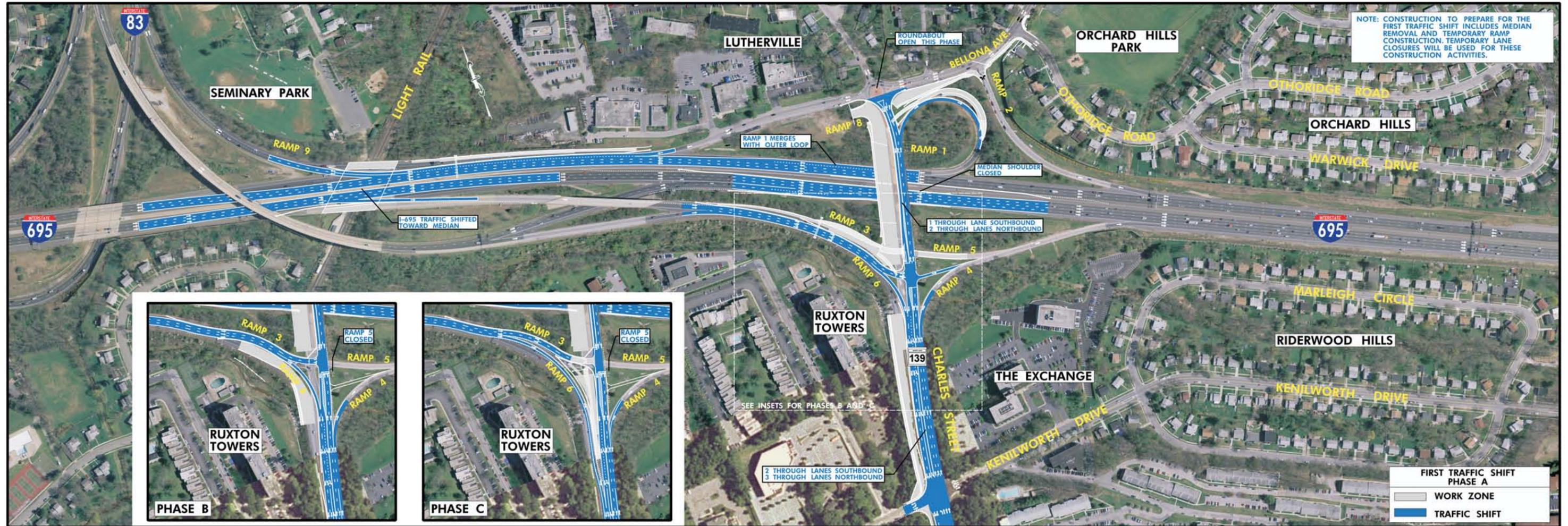
The interchange improvements will involve modifications to Charles Street, Bellona Avenue and the ramps to and from I-695, including: replacement of the roundabout at Bellona Avenue with a traffic signal; construction of a traffic signal at the Outer Loop off-ramp and Bellona Avenue; and reconfiguration of the on-ramp to the Outer Loop / I-83, separating business traffic from ramp traffic.

New sidewalks and on-street bicycle lanes will be constructed along Charles Street between Kenilworth Drive and Bellona Avenue. New sidewalks will also be constructed along Bellona Avenue between Charles Street and Othoridge Road / Orchard Hills Park.

Streetscape improvements along Charles Street and Bellona Avenue will include landscaped medians and roadside areas as well as decorative hardscape finishes. Street trees, low plantings, and belgium block paver accents will line the roadways, while new retaining walls will be textured to compliment the new bridge. Areas disturbed by construction along I-695 and Charles Street will be re-vegetated.

I-695 will be resurfaced and the I-695 Bridge over Light Rail will be improved with a deck rehabilitation and resurfacing. New interchange signing and lighting will be constructed throughout the project limits.

New Traffic Patterns and Construction Work Zones Beginning Winter 2009



Changing Traffic Patterns:

Construction will be accomplished using traffic shifts along I-695 and Charles Street that create work zones for workers and equipment. For example, on the Charles Street Bridge, traffic will initially be moved to the east side of the existing bridge (see the map above) while the west side is demolished and reconstructed. Following construction of the west side, traffic will be moved to the new, west portion of the bridge while the existing east side is demolished and reconstructed.

Lane and Ramp Closures:

Throughout construction, the 3 through lanes along the Inner and Outer Loops of I-695 will be open during rush hours. Lane closures will occur during nighttime hours (8 PM to 5 AM) for bridge construction and paving operations. The number of through lanes along Charles Street will be reduced throughout construction. During the first traffic shift (see the map above) Charles Street will be reduced by 1 through lane in each direction between the Inner Loop Ramps and Bellona Avenue, and by 1 through lane in the southbound direction between the Inner Loop ramps and Kenilworth Drive. Motorists will continue to use the roundabout at Bellona Avenue.

Most ramps will have periodic nighttime closures with advance warning and alternate routes provided. During the construction shown on the map above, Ramp 5 (southbound Charles Street to Inner Loop) will be closed for an extended period of time. A detour route will be established to direct Ramp 5 traffic to the York Road interchange.

Travel Delays:

Motorists should anticipate delays when traveling through the project area. Please pay attention to work zone signs, workers and equipment and plan ahead for your commute.

Speed Limits:

Posted speed limits on I-695 will be reduced to 50 MPH through most of the construction.



Access to Residences and Businesses:

Access to residences and businesses will be maintained during construction. SHA will work with homeowners and business owners to coordinate construction activities at driveways and entrances to assure the least impact possible.

Construction Hours:

Most work will be performed during the weekday time period. However, for safety and schedule purposes, some work may take place on weekends or evenings. Noise intensive operations will be prohibited at night.

STAY ALERT

A few tips when driving through work zones:

- Pay attention to signage for new traffic patterns
- Slow down and obey speed limits
- Avoid cell phone use while driving
- Watch for workers and equipment on or near the road
- Use caution when changing lanes and merging with traffic
- Don't tailgate



For additional tips and work zone safety information visit www.choosesafetyforlife.com