



Huguenot Bridge (Rt. 147) Replacement

Frequently Asked Questions
March 2011

What's happening during the first phase of construction?

The first phase involves constructing the western half of the new bridge while traffic is maintained on the existing bridge. This phase will continue through June 2012.

What will happen during phase two?

During phase two, traffic will be shifted onto the new section of the bridge that was built during phase one. At that time, the existing Huguenot Bridge will be torn down and the second half of the new bridge will be constructed. Phase two is expected to take place June 2012 through October 2013.

What are the bridge specifics?

The new bridge will have two 12 foot lanes, two 10 foot shoulders and two 5 foot sidewalks. The project also involves modifications to loops and ramps at Riverside Drive and modifications to Westham Station Road.

What will the bridge railings look like?

The new bridge will have a two-foot high concrete parapet wall on each side with three horizontal steel railings (each four inches wide) on top for a total height of four feet, six inches. The parapet wall will be stained a neutral color and the steel railings will be painted brown. It will sit on top of a six inch high sidewalk.

Bridge safety standards have changed significantly since the Huguenot Bridge was built in 1949. Not only does the railing have to meet the crash-testing criteria for a 50 mph design speed (posted speed limit will be 45 mph) and the projected average daily traffic, it also has to meet the height requirement for pedestrian accessible bridges. This railing design meets both requirements.

With the exception of the railing and parapet wall colors, this design will look similar and have the same dimensions as the railing used for the pedestrian side of the Route 5 [Judith Stewart Dresser Memorial Bridge](#) (spans the Chickahominy River in Charles City County).

Will VDOT close the bridge during construction?

VDOT is committed to maintaining one lane of traffic in each direction during construction. There will be occasions when traffic may be limited to one lane using flaggers to direct traffic or traffic may be moved onto temporary pavement due to construction phasing. These instances will be limited to off peak hours. Also, bridge maintenance activities and inspections not associated with this project may result in lane closures or a temporary bridge closure.

Will construction noise affect nearby residents?

As is the case with most roadway and bridge construction, noise may be a factor. VDOT will make every effort to minimize the amount of noise-generating activities to weekday, daylight hours. However, there may be occasions when the contractor is required to work at night or on the weekend, which may create minimal noise. VDOT will attempt to notify local residents via e-mailed traffic alerts if we anticipate overnight construction and any impact it may have on residents.

How is VDOT keeping people updated about this project?

VDOT maintains a webpage for this project at www.huguenotbridge.org. Please visit this webpage to sign up to receive project updates, traffic alerts and news releases. The Richmond news media receive the same traffic alerts, news releases and updates about the project.

When is construction expected to be finished?

Completion is expected in October 2013.

What is the cost of the project?

Approximately \$51 million (includes design, right of way and construction)

Who can I contact if I have a question or concern during the construction?

You can reach a VDOT representative 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-FOR-ROAD (800- 367-7623) or you can send an e-mail to Richmondinfo@vdot.virginia.gov.