

Project Update and Field Activity Report

I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) Project

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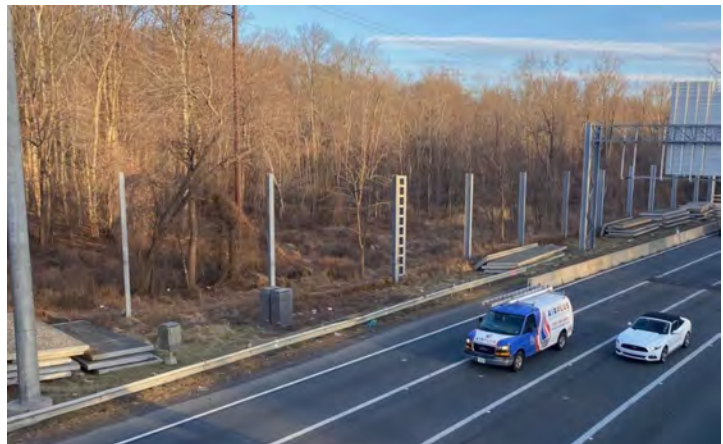
- Noise Wall Removal and Continued Tree Clearing
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Current and Upcoming Construction

Noise Wall Removal and Tree Clearing Continues

This spring, crews will continue clearing trees and removing more than four miles of old noise walls along the 495 NEXT project corridor.

After removing noise walls and clearing trees, crews will shift to preparing the opened areas for construction of new lanes. Where necessary, drainage will be installed, grading will be performed and retaining walls will be built.



The new outside lanes will be constructed, and new and replacement noise walls will be installed as soon as the necessary construction is in place. Traffic will then be shifted onto the new outside lanes, creating space to build the new inside lanes.

Pile Driving Will Begin This Spring for a Beltway Overpass and Cross-Street Bridges Over the Beltway

Pile driving that is necessary to build foundations for a new Beltway

overpass and cross-street bridges over the Beltway will begin this spring. This periodically noisy work will occur adjacent to neighborhoods near Scotts Crossing Road, Spring Gate Drive, Old Dominion Drive, Georgetown Pike, Balls Hill Road and Live Oak Drive.

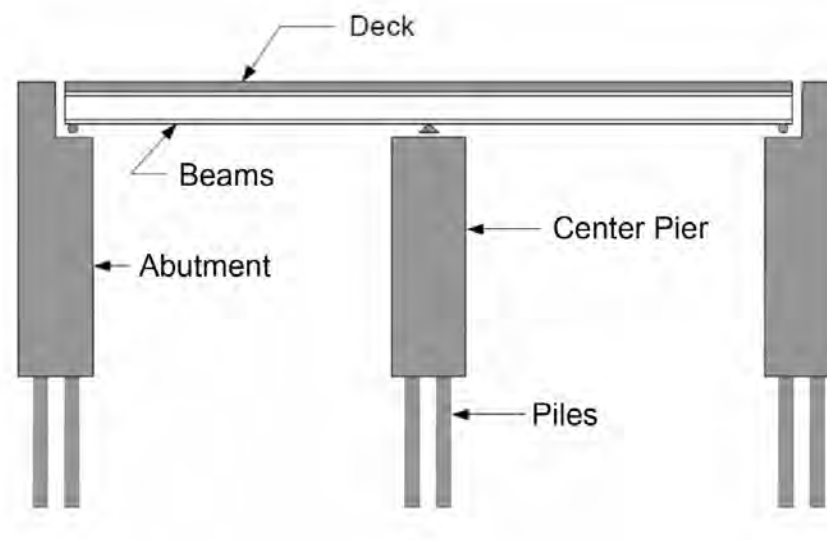
The periodically noisy work will involve driving steel piles into the earth. When active, neighbors may hear hammer strikes every few seconds. The pile driving, which typically takes a few weeks at each location, will occur during daytime hours, and noise levels will be monitored.



In February 2023, the center pier of the replacement Live Oak Drive Bridge was completed. Workers are now building the bridge abutments on both sides of the Beltway.

The 495 NEXT project team will make every effort to complete the pile driving as efficiently as possible. All construction work is dependent on weather conditions and other scheduling factors.

Following pile driving, work crews will complete the bridge abutments. Next, steel beams will be lifted into place, an activity that must be performed during nighttime hours, as the lanes underneath must be closed to traffic for safety reasons. Lastly, the decks and remaining elements of the bridges will be constructed.



Elements of a bridge structure

Upcoming Live Oak Drive Work to Include Temporary Road Shift

Following the February removal of a portion of a 30-year-old noise wall along Live Oak Drive, work crews have been preparing the opened area for the installation of temporary pavement to enable a short segment of Live Oak Drive to be shifted. The traffic switch is necessary for the relocation of utilities as well as construction of the permanent Live

Oak Drive.

Work in this area is following this sequence:



1. Construct temporary drainage facilities.
2. Place temporary pavement.
3. Shift traffic onto new alignment.
4. Clear a limited number of additional trees in existing VDOT right-of-way and acquired easements.
5. Relocate utility lines next to the Langley Swim and Tennis Club and adjacent homes.
6. Construct new, permanent alignment of Live Oak Drive.
7. Install new and upgraded noise walls.

Lewinsville Road Bridge Improvements Underway

In early March, 495 NEXT crews began work on the Lewinsville Road Bridge over the Beltway. Unlike other cross-street bridges along the project corridor, this existing bridge crossing is long enough to span the future express lanes and is not being replaced.

The previous five-foot-wide sidewalks on the Lewinsville Road Bridge are being replaced with 10-foot-wide sidewalks that will connect with the project's bicycle and pedestrian trail, which will run north along the entire length of the project.



In progress sidewalk demolition. Five-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides are being replaced with 10-foot-wide sidewalks.

The sequence of construction is as follows:

1. Restripe the roadway and shift traffic slightly north.
2. Add a new crosswalk for pedestrian access to the northern sidewalk.
3. Close the southern sidewalk and demolish it.
4. Construct a new 10-foot-wide southern sidewalk.
5. Repeat the sequence for the new northern sidewalk.

Both new sidewalks will be completed later in 2023. The new bicycle and pedestrian trail is scheduled to be completed in the first half of 2026.

All construction activities are subject to change due to weather and other factors.

Project Background

The I-495 Express Lanes Northern Extension (495 NEXT) project is extending the existing 495 Express Lanes north by two-and-a-half miles from the Dulles Corridor interchange to the George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange in the vicinity of the American Legion Bridge. The project will provide new and improved connections at the Dulles Corridor and George Washington Memorial Parkway.

Other project benefits include four miles of new bicycle and pedestrian connections including a shared-use path parallel to I-495 from Lewinsville Road to near Live Oak Drive, replacement or rehabilitation of seven bridges with pedestrian accommodations, replacement of nine existing noise walls and construction of a new noise wall along Live Oak Drive in the vicinity of the George Washington Memorial Parkway interchange, environmental improvements introducing stormwater management facilities and funding restoration of the stream at Scotts Run, and dedicated funding to support transit improvements in the corridor including new bus service over the American Legion Bridge.

495 NEXT is a public-private partnership project between the Commonwealth of Virginia and Transurban, operator of the existing 495 Express Lanes. Lane Construction is the design-build contractor for the project. The new extended lanes are scheduled to open in 2025.



Learn More About the Project

Check out www.495NEXT.org for additional information.

[Sign up](#) here to receive project email updates.



Questions?

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