



**\*\*\* TRAFFIC ADVISORY \*\*\***

**New traffic patterns, lane shifts planned for the I-85/I-77 interchange in Charlotte**  
*Motorists encouraged to be aware, drive safely in work zone*

**Charlotte, N.C. (December 1, 2016)** – As work continues on the I-77 Express Lanes project, motorists will notice some new traffic patterns and lane shifts as activities begin on I-77 near uptown Charlotte. Throughout the construction process, I-77 Mobility Partners and lead contractor Sugar Creek Construction seek to minimize the impact of traffic changes by scheduling specific activities during non-peak drive times.

**WHAT: Brief slowing of traffic flow associated with new tunnel construction on I-77 northbound, just north of the I-85/I-77 interchange.**

**WHEN: Saturday, December 3 and/or Sunday, December 4 from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Weather permitting.**

Motorists can expect a brief slowing of the traffic flow during these hours to allow crews to safely blast the first portion of a new tunnel to be constructed as part of the I-77 Express Lanes. During this time, ramps leading to this portion of I-77 will be temporarily closed. Drivers may consider using alternate routes, including I-85 northbound and southbound. Law enforcement will be on hand to assist with traffic.

New temporary traffic lanes will be built at this location in order to shift traffic to the east (outside) of the existing lanes. Drivers will notice new traffic patterns, in the next several weeks, as crews set temporary safety barriers and place new pavement markings. Once traffic is in this new pattern, the second phase of the tunnel construction will begin. The new traffic pattern is scheduled to be in place for approximately nine months.

Motorists are encouraged to pay attention when approaching the work zone, obey the posted speed limit and work zone signs, and allow extra time to reach their destinations safely.

Once the I-77 Express Lanes are complete, dedicated express lanes will run adjacent to the existing general purpose lanes. The number of general purpose lanes will remain the same as today. Drivers will have the choice of using the express lanes to avoid travel delays, the general purpose lanes or a combination of both. Vehicles with three or more occupants (including the driver) and equipped with a transponder may use the express lanes for free. The full 26-mile project is slated to be completed in 2018.

For the most up to date information about the project, we encourage people to sign up for our e-newsletter and follow us on social media, using the following:

<http://www.i77express.com/newsroom/newsletter-e-alerts/>

I-77 Mobility Partners on Facebook [I-77 Express Lanes](#)

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