



HARRISONBURG | VA FRIENDLY BY NATURE



For Immediate Release – June 3, 2020

Contact: Michael Parks, Harrisonburg Director of Communications
540.432.7701
Michael.Parks@harrisonburgva.gov

Realignment work to briefly close I-81N Exit 245 ramp Monday & Tuesday

HARRISONBURG, Va. – Work related to the Interstate 81 Exit 245 reconfiguration project will require the closure of the northbound exit ramp onto Port Republic road for two days next week.

The northbound exit ramp will close on the morning of Monday, June 8, and is expected to reopen on the evening of Tuesday, June 9. Detour signage will be placed along I-81, and drivers are encouraged to use Exit 247 at East Market Street while the Port Republic Road ramp is closed.

Drivers should use caution in this area while work takes place.

The I-81 North realignment will relocate the northbound off ramp to make it align with Forest Hill Road. The project, which is expected to be completed by August 2020, seeks to improve the safety of drivers on Port Republic Road and of those trying to access Forest Hill Road after exiting the interstate. The project also will relocate the James Madison University R-10 and R-11 parking lot entrance to Hunters Road, and the university has been a significant partner in the overall project – providing all needed right of way and easements for the project at no cost to the City.

The City was awarded a Virginia Department of Transportation Smart Scale grant for the realignment.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.

Traffic delays also possible on Port Republic, Forest Hill roads on Wednesday & Thursday

Crews are expected to intermittently stop traffic on Port Republic and Forest Hill roads on Wednesday and Thursday of next week in order to install mast arms for signal lights.

State Police will be at the intersection to manage traffic as needed while work takes place.

Drivers should use caution in this area Wednesday and Thursday and expect possible delays.