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National Park Service

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

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Office of Communications Traffic Advisory

For Immediate Release: Friday, February 1, 2008
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Work Continues on George Washington Memorial Parkway's Humpback Bridge; New Southbound Traffic Pattern to begin Second Construction Phase; Delays are Expected

McLean, VA - - The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Eastern Federal Lands Highways Division (EFLHD), in cooperation with the National Park Service (NPS), on **southbound** George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) will **shift both lanes to the left** just before the bridge as part of the ongoing Humpback Bridge Replacement Project. This lane shift will begin on or about Monday, February 4, 2008. The Humpback Bridge is located along the GWMP just north of Interstate 395 and immediately south of the Columbia Island Marina. Traffic delays are expected.

During this phase of construction work will include installing two cranes on each side of the Boundary Channel along the southbound Parkway. Additional work includes the removal of a power line from under the bridge and a temporary power line to be installed across the channel. Boat traffic will still be able to travel under the bridge. The Mount Vernon Trail will remain open at all times during the project.

All lanes of the GWMP and the Humpback Bridge will remain open during rush hours, or from 5:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Delays may be expected when construction crews work between 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and from 7:00 p.m. to 5:30 a.m. **During construction, one lane in each direction will remain open at all times.** Electronic message boards and construction signs have been and will remain in place to alert drivers of the expected closures.

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The public may obtain information about this project in several ways. Construction updates and suggested alternate routes may be found at www.humpbackbridge.dot.gov. Motorists may also access up- to- date information about this project by dialing "5- 1- 1."

The planned completion date for all work is Spring 2010. Weather delays may require adjustments to the schedule. The FHWA and the NPS will continue to inform the public and the media of any changes in the work schedule. Every effort is being made to minimize traffic delays and accomplish the work in a timely manner. The FHWA and the NPS regret any inconvenience and appreciate the public's understanding.

BROADCASTER'S NOTE:

Please announce on your morning and afternoon drive times and on 5:00 a.m., 6:00 a.m., 12 noon, 4:00 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. newscasts beginning Friday, February 1, 2008.

Alternate routes have been changed. For your convenience, the FHWA and the NPS are providing the following **new** suggested alternate routes during this construction project:

From points north to National Airport and points south:
1. Take GWMP South and exit at Arlington Cemetery/Memorial Bridge.
2. Turn left onto Memorial Avenue.
3. Take exit ramp on right to South 1/110.
4. Merge onto 110 South.
5. Take the I- 395 North/US- 1 North ramp.
6. Take exit 10 A- B for GWMP South toward Reagan National Airport.
7. Merge onto GWMP South.

From DC and points east to National Airport and points south:
1. Take the 14th Street Bridge (I- 395) across the Potomac River.
2. Take exit 10- B toward Reagan National Airport.
3. Merge onto GWMP and follow signs.

From points south and I- 395 northbound to Memorial Bridge, Theodore Roosevelt Island, and points north:
1. From I- 395, take exit 8- B for VA- 27 Washington Blvd./Pentagon/Arlington Cemetery/Rosslyn.
2. At split, bear left toward Memorial Bridge.
3. Bear right at split toward US- 50 West.
4. At second split, bear right again to continue toward Spout Run/I- 66/I- 495.
5. Merge onto GWMP North.

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