

Department of Transportation

TRANSPORTATION NEWS

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TRAVEL ADVISORY: New Traffic Pattern Starting Next Week on Nassau Expressway in town of Hempstead, Nassau County

Motorists should expect a new traffic pattern and overnight work on Route 878 (Nassau Expressway) in the town of Hempstead, Nassau County.

Beginning Wednesday, October 10, southbound Nassau Expressway traffic will be shifted towards the northbound side during both daytime and overnight hours. Two travel lanes in both directions will remain open at all times. Variable message signs have been placed in the area to guide and alert drivers. This pattern is expected to remain in place into the spring.

Workers will begin raising and constructing a new southbound roadway as part of a \$130 million New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) design-build project to improve the safety and operation of the Nassau Expressway between Rockaway Turnpike and Burnside Avenue, as well as improve the resiliency of the roadway as an emergency coastal storm evacuation route.

As with most road projects, work may be cancelled, postponed, or prolonged due to inclement weather.

NYSDOT appreciates the patience and cooperation of motorists and the local community while this project to improve safety and resiliency along the Nassau Expressway is undertaken. Anyone with questions regarding this project should call (516) 881-7947 or visit <u>www.dot.ny.gov/ny878</u>.

Motorists are reminded to drive carefully through the work zone, obey any speed restrictions that may be in place and follow the instructions of flag persons for their safety and the safety of the highway work crew.

Recently, NYSDOT unveiled a new public service announcement and social media campaign focused on the importance of respecting flagging personnel. This year's work zone safety campaign, "Flaggers have families too," is designed to remind motorists that flagging personnel are not attempting to disrupt traffic – simply doing their jobs and want to get home safely at the end of each work day. The PSA can be viewed <u>here & here</u>.

For real-time travel information, motorists should call 511 or visit <u>www.511NY.org</u> or the mobile site at <u>m.511ny.org</u>, New York State's official traffic and travel information source.

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