

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Old Herald Harbor and Patuxent River Roads To Reopen By December 1st

Initial Behind the Scenes Engineering Design Work Was Essential for Public Safety

Annapolis, Maryland (October 26, 2011) —The Anne Arundel County Bureau of Highways (BOH) anticipates completion of extensive and complex culvert repairs to Old Herald Harbor Road and Patuxent River Road by December 1, 2011. The Crownsville and Davidsonville Roads required extremely complex designs for repairs after receiving the most extensive damage of all roads closed by the County due to washouts associated with the heavy rains and flashfloods of last month's Tropical Storm Lee.

As anticipated, Old Herald Harbor Road between H Diggs Lane and Bill Carr Road and Patuxent River Road from Queens Anne's Bridge to Farmers Lane are the last two remaining segments of the original 25 partially or completely closed roads listed by the BOH as a priority for washout repairs and reopening on September 25. Both suffered complete culvert and roadway washouts. The ensuing and intense repair effort resulted in the reopening of the other 23 closures within three weeks of the announcement and well ahead of the initial timeline.

The required County engineering efforts for proper design repairs, reconstruction and restorations were time consuming. Initially and for the most part, repair efforts took place off site. The designs for repair and actual work must adhere to all Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) over site. Regulations include allowances for the formation of a natural stream bottom to support adequate fish passage.

Weather is a key factor and challenge for any construction project. Extensive rain can halt construction and has the potential to delay any anticipated completion.

Completed Engineering Efforts

- Detail surveys to establish spot elevations
- Field meetings with MDE to discuss damage and alternative restoration strategies.
- The need for engineering calculations and restoration design.
- MDE approval of restoration strategy and design.

Actual Onsite Construction Work

- Removal of collapsed pipe remnants and other debris
- Removal of trees with compromised roots and other travel lane hazards.
- Replacing the inadequate pipe
- Installing properly sized pipes to allow safe conveyance of 100 yr storm w/o road overtopping.
- Pavement restoration
- Guardrail installation

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