



Milton-Madison Bridge reduced to one lane Jan. 16-19

Closure to accommodate core sampling of bridge piers

LOUISVILLE, KY (January 8, 2009) — The Milton-Madison Bridge, which carries US 421 across the Ohio River from Milton, KY to Madison, IN, will be reduced to one lane Jan. 16-19 while crews obtain core samples from the bridge piers.

Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) engineers will test the viability of the existing piers, which could be used during a replacement of the superstructure, an alternative being considered for the Milton-Madison Bridge Project.

“Testing of the cores will provide information that will be used to determine if there is any potential for retrofitting the existing piers for a new superstructure,” said Ray Polly, KYTC project manager.

KYTC geotechnical crews will drill the bridge piers to obtain the needed samples. Analysis will be conducted by KYTC and Construction Technology Laboratories (CTL) of Skokie, IL.

Crews will begin preparations on Thursday, Jan. 15. The northbound lane of the bridge will be closed for the drilling procedures from 9 a.m. Friday, Jan. 16 to 6 a.m. Monday, Jan. 19. Crews will be working around the clock to complete the drilling of two piers. Flagmen will conduct traffic control.

Another weekend of work is scheduled Jan. 30 – Feb. 2 to obtain samples from two other piers. Crews will also be performing land borings near the bridge the week of January 19, but the work will not affect traffic.

Due to the narrow lanes and the placement of drilling equipment, overweight and over-dimensional vehicles will be restricted. Commercial vehicles with trailers wider than 96 inches must take an alternate route to cross the Ohio River. The nearest Ohio River bridges are 46 miles downstream in Louisville, KY and 26 miles upstream near Vevay, IN.

The cabinet encourages drivers to follow posted speed limits and drive cautiously through the workzone. Motorists should expect delays. To avoid these delays, commercial vehicles are encouraged to use the Markland Dam Bridge as a detour during this time

The work schedule is subject to change. Dial 511 or visit 511.ky.gov for the latest in traffic and travel information.