

## Kentucky Transportation Cabinet • District 7

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Long-Term Lane Closures Planned for Leestown Road Beginning Monday, June 17

Expect a new traffic pattern at the New Circle Road (KY 4) interchange beginning at 7 p.m.

**LEXINGTON, Ky. (June 13, 2024) –** Construction for the New Circle Road (KY 4) widening project in Lexington will require long-term lane closures on Leestown Road (KY 421) and an exit ramp at the New Circle Road interchange.

Beginning at 7 p.m. on Monday, June 17, through traffic on Leestown Road will be restricted to one lane each direction. The exit ramp from eastbound New Circle to Leestown will also be one lane. Flaggers will assist with traffic until permanent traffic barriers are in place.

The lane closures are necessary to build the bridge portion of the new double crossover diamond (DCD) interchange, and will remain in place throughout construction. When complete, the bridge will elevate New Circle Road over Leestown Road.

"These lane closures make possible the next step in bringing the New Circle Road widening project toward completion," said Kentucky Department of Highways District 7 Chief District Engineer Kelly Baker. "The temporary inconvenience will pay off in the end, when we have better safety, faster travel times, and improved connectivity. In the meantime, we urge drivers to slow down and stay alert when traveling through these active work zones to keep everyone safe and to choose alternate routes when possible."

Motorists should note:

- Leestown Road will be reduced to one lane in each direction at the KY 4 interchange between mile points 1.605 and 1.940.
- The northbound left lane on Leestown Road will be left turn only onto KY 4 eastbound.
- The southbound left lane on Leestown Road will be left turn only onto KY 4 westbound.
- The left lane of the ramp from KY 4 eastbound to Leestown Road will be closed.
- Flaggers will assist with traffic on Monday and until a permanent barrier is in place.
- Lane closures will be in place until further notice as project construction continues.

When complete in 2027, the New Circle Road widening project will increase capacity and operation of New Circle Road and the Leestown interchange, improving safety and travel times in this rapidly-growing area of Lexington.

It will feature three lanes of New Circle Road in each direction with a paved median and barrier wall. The Leestown interchange will be a double crossover diamond similar to the Harrodsburg Road interchange, which is a design proven to reduce crashes. For more information about this type of interchange, visit the <u>SAFERoad Solutions website</u>.

New sidewalks constructed along Leestown Road will connect to existing sidewalks on both sides of New Circle Road and through the interchange, and a sound barrier wall will be included on the Inner Loop from Leestown Road to the Norfolk Southern railroad bridge.

Construction and lane closures are scheduled on a tentative basis and are subject to change depending on weather conditions, emergencies and other factors beyond the control of the Kentucky Department of Highways District 7.

District 7 includes Anderson, Bourbon, Boyle, Clark, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Scott and Woodford counties.

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