



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
TURNPIKE AUTHORITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NCTA TO CONDUCT ORIGIN AND DESTINATION SURVEY
FOR MID-CURRITUCK BRIDGE PROJECT**

RALEIGH — On Wednesday, July 23 and Saturday, July 26, 2008 the North Carolina Turnpike Authority (NCTA) will conduct a series of motorist surveys in Southern Shores at the intersection of NC 12 and Chichauk Trail to better understand travel patterns in the Currituck Sound area. The surveys will involve representatives handing out cards for motorists to fill out at their convenience. The information collected from these questionnaires will be used in the planning and development efforts for the Mid-Currituck Bridge project.

A team of survey personnel will be positioned along both sides of NC 12 at the Chichauk Trail traffic signal. At each red light cycle, drivers will be handed a postage-paid, pre-addressed, mail back questionnaire. Motorists are requested to complete the questionnaire and return it in the mail as soon as possible. As many drivers as possible will be handed the survey card during the red light, no survey staff will be in the road during the green light. Under this survey approach, motorists' travel should not be impeded during this period. Patrons will be asked about their trip origin and destination. In addition, information regarding trip purpose, trip frequency and vehicle occupancy would be obtained. The survey effort is scheduled to be conducted on a weekday and weekend day only from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

These surveys are an essential part of the project planning process and customer service outreach. All answers on the questionnaire will be kept confidential and will only be used for planning purposes. For further information, please contact Reid Simons at the NCTA at 919-523-1662.

NCTA is currently evaluating alternatives for the proposed Mid-Currituck Bridge project, including a 7-mile toll facility that would be built as a Public Private Partnership and constructed on new location across the Currituck Sound connecting the North Carolina mainland at US 158 near Aydlett with NC 12 on the Outer Banks south of Corolla. Construction of the Mid-Currituck Bridge would begin in early 2010 and open to traffic in fall 2013. NCTA has solicited qualifications from investors / contractors interested in partnering with NCTA to aid in the project development and design and potentially build, finance, operate and maintain the proposed Mid-Currituck Bridge project. NCTA anticipates completing procurement and selecting a predevelopment partner by December 2008.

Additional project information can be found at www.ncturnpike.org/projects/Mid_Currituck/

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