

NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

For Immediate Release

April 8, 2008

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**NHDOT DEPLOYS “SMART WORK ZONE”
ON SPAULDING TURNPIKE IN ROCHESTER**

PURPOSE IS TO INFORM MOTORISTS OF WHAT TO EXPECT AHEAD

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) has deployed a Smart Work Zone System as part of the Spaulding Turnpike Expansion project. The primary goal of this system is to provide a safe and efficient travel corridor through the work zone by alerting motorists about what is happening along the road ahead.

The Exit 12 Smart Work Zone consists of changeable message signs that provide information to motorists as they travel through the work zone, traffic sensors that measure vehicle volumes and speed, and a mounted camera that provides images of traffic through the construction corridor.

Motorists will be able to check travel conditions in the work zone via the Internet and will receive vital incident or road construction information through changeable message signs strategically located within five miles north of the project area. Drivers will be able to use this information to prepare for stopped or slowed traffic ahead, or they may choose an alternative route. The idea is to let the motorist decide what action to take. Also benefiting from the Smart Work Zone will be emergency personnel responding to incidents on the Spaulding in the vicinity of Rochester.

The Smart Work Zone has a website link that may be accessed at www.511spaulding.com. This website link provides the traveling public an Internet location to view the messages displayed on the message signs, the speeds measured through the work zone and an image of the traffic on the turnpike.

The volume, speed and queue (length of stopped or slowed vehicles) data will be collected and used by the NHDOT to evaluate the impact of the work zone on traffic in this portion of the corridor.

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