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SNJB to Implement Vehicle Registration Holds for Toll Violators
--Working with the Department of Motor Vehicles, new program begins late August 2015--

(Chesapeake, VA) – Beginning later this month, South Norfolk Jordan Bridge (SNJB) will deploy a new effort to encourage prompt payment of tolls and hold violators accountable for their obligations as allowable under law. As part of the SNJB’s agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), Bridge officials are eligible to withhold registration renewal for any vehicle with two or more unpaid tolls.

During this transition, SNJB Pay-By-Mail drivers who traveled as early as mid-June without an active account may experience a slight delay in receiving an invoice for their tolled travel. However, these select Pay-By-Mail drivers will not incur any added fees due to any invoice delay during this transition and still have 30 days from the date of their invoice to remit payment without penalty.

Drivers who travel the bridge without a valid E-ZPass account are invoiced by mail for their trip(s) and have 30 days from the date of the invoice to remit payment via the bridge’s website, phone or mail to its Customer Service Center. With the addition of the vehicle registration renewal holds, the SNJB Pay-by-Mail invoicing process will be amended to incorporate the new process when an account with two or more tolls remains unpaid. The SNJB will mail a letter warning of a registration hold to the vehicle’s registered owner and offer a final opportunity to resolve the outstanding account prior to implementation. Once the hold has been applied and the registration renewal is pending, a notice from the DMV also will be mailed to the vehicle’s registered owner. DMV will not permit a vehicle’s registration to be renewed until the tolls are paid to, and the hold is lifted by, the South Norfolk Jordan Bridge.

“Our drivers value the reliability and accessibility of the Jordan Bridge river crossing, and we continue to welcome all drivers using a variety of toll payment methods. However, it’s unfair to the majority of our responsible drivers who pay their tolls to let these accounts remain unpaid and be subjected to additional traffic by non-paying drivers. This additional process will be used to further encourage timely payment of all tolls by all patrons,” says General Manager Kevin Crum.

The SNJB introduced all-electronic, open road tolling to Hampton Roads in October 2012. Today, nearly 70% of all SNJB traffic enjoys the convenience and lowest toll rate offered by traveling with a valid E-ZPass and will not be affected by the new toll enforcement effort. Punitive measures are only applied to drivers who abuse the advantages afforded by this new travel technology.

About the South Norfolk Jordan Bridge

The 5,375’ long South Norfolk Jordan Bridge is two-lane, fixed span, high-rise toll bridge over the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River. On the west side of the river, the bridge ties into existing Elm Avenue and Victory Boulevard in Portsmouth. On the east side, it connects to Poindexter Street and provides seamless access to I-464 in Chesapeake. The privately-funded bridge features two 12’ wide traffic lanes, two 8’ wide shoulders and a pedestrian sidewalk separated from traffic by a concrete barrier. A fully-electronic video capture system uses E-Z Pass to maximize convenience for users, but is not required for travel.

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