



**Governor's Office of
Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness**

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2, 2012

Interstate 10 open from Baton Rouge to New Orleans

Baton Rouge, LA – The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) announced that I-10 from Baton Rouge to New Orleans is open to traffic.

DOTD has opened all Eastbound and Westbound lanes of I-10 to Baton Rouge to New Orleans to traffic. Sections of the roadway will continue to be monitored for flood waters.

“DOTD crews have been working around the clock to assist in opening flood affected roadways. Ensuring the safety of our roadways remains DOTD’s top priority as clean-up efforts continue.” said DOTD Secretary Sherri H. LeBas.

Flood waters are continuing to fluctuate in affected areas. If water begins to cover roadways again, DOTD will need to close those routes.

DOTD is working in conjunction with law enforcement and the Governor’s Office of Homeland Security to issue information to the public regarding road closures and alternate routes. Citizens can access this information on real-time traffic and road conditions by using the 511 Traveler Information System simply by visiting the web site at www.511la.org or by dialing 511 from their telephone and saying the route or region about which they are seeking information. Out-of-state travelers can call 1-888-ROAD-511 (1-888-762-3511).

DOTD continues to urge motorists to use extra caution when traveling on roadways during hazardous weather conditions and stay off the roads whenever possible. Motorists should drive slowly and carefully, and avoid driving while distracted. Always allow for extra driving time, reduce speeds when visibility is low, and make sure there is plenty of room between vehicles. As always, DOTD reminds motorists to buckle up and refrain from drinking and driving.

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Motorists can also obtain information regarding road closures by contacting DOTD's Customer Service Center at 1-877-4LA-DOTD (1-877-452-3683). The center is typically open from 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, but has extended its hours during the storm.

The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) is committed to delivering transportation and public works systems that enhance the quality of life. In addition to more than 16,600 miles of roadway, including over 890 miles of interstate, DOTD supports the development of the state's aviation, marine and rail infrastructures. Through this work, we are able to facilitate economic development, create job opportunities, improve vital evacuation routes, and make critical freight corridors safer and more efficient.

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