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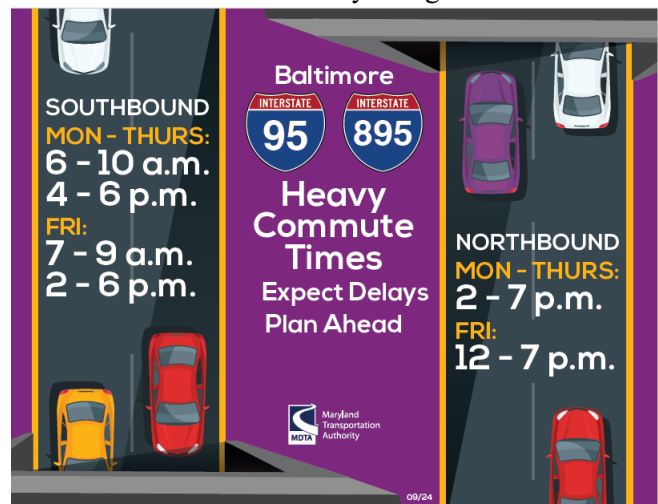
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**BACK TO SCHOOL. BACK TO FALL COMMUTE.  
BALTIMORE DRIVERS: EXPECT DELAYS & PLAN AHEAD**

*Be focused and safe behind the wheel*

**BALTIMORE, MD** (August 22, 2024) – As summer winds down, the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) reminds drivers that traffic is picking up as the Baltimore area returns to school and commuting routines. The MDTA and its Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) partners are working together to guide commuters through the first Back to School and Fall season without the I-695 Key Bridge.

A new Harbor Crossings web page [www.mdtamaryland.gov/harborcrossings](http://www.mdtamaryland.gov/harborcrossings) brings together commuting resources and transportation options to help drivers plan ahead. Since the collapse of the bridge in March, Baltimore-area drivers now experience longer commute times and extended rush-hour periods. The web page includes an infographic showing current heavy commute times when drivers should expect delays for I-95 Fort McHenry Tunnel and I-895 Baltimore Harbor Tunnel. Consider ridesharing or public transportation, and when possible avoid driving during heavy commute times.



**Getting There Together:**

- buckle up, every passenger, every trip;
- look up and look out for children walking to school;
- vehicles must stop for school buses when the buses' red flashers are on (except when the buses are on the opposite side of a highway divided by a barrier or median strip);
- make sure your vehicle is road ready; and
- if you are an *E-ZPass* Baltimore Region Discount Plan customer and commuting habits have changed, visit [here](#).

**Keep Yourself in the Know:**

- Stay up to date with the latest news and updates by signing up for email alerts [here](#).
- For real-time updates on major incidents on Maryland toll roads follow <https://x.com/TheMDTA> on X/Twitter.
- Check back for updates on Baltimore Harbor Crossing toll facilities and learn about tunnel restrictions on certain hazardous materials, width and height, by visiting [www.mdtamaryland.gov/harborcrossings](http://www.mdtamaryland.gov/harborcrossings).

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