

## Important Tips

Your needs and those of your family should be the primary factors considered when determining the timing of your evacuation. Do not delay your departure in anticipation of a lane reversal.

Should the reversal be activated, citizens will be advised through local radio and television stations.

All citizens should prepare a plan well in advance of the evacuation.

### The following steps are recommended:

- Assemble your disaster supplies kit. Include important documents such as insurance and medical information.
- Secure your home against disaster to help reduce damage.
- Make provisions for pets.
- Know your area's evacuation plan/routes before you leave home.
- Fill your vehicle with gas. Take only the vehicle necessary to transport you and your family to safety. Extra vehicles create congestion.
- Bring extra cash in case banks are closed and ATM machines are inoperable.
- Notify family and friends of your plan and your destination.
- Evacuate, traveling safely to your destination.

After the storm, listen to local officials for the all-clear signal before returning home.

Remember, do *not* try to drive through standing water. Just a few inches of water can float an automobile.

## Fender-Bender?

State law requires motorists to move fender-bender accidents out of the travel lanes to the shoulder of the road. To keep all travel lanes and shoulders clear, however, all disabled vehicles on the shoulder will be relocated to the next exit ramp where further assistance will be provided.



Call "511" for your travel information.

*Note:* If your cellular provider has not implemented 511, you may call 1-877-511-INNC (4662).

For TDD-TDY, call 711 & ask for 1-877-511-4662.

For more information on hurricane preparedness and evacuation safety, visit the N.C. Emergency Management Division at [ncem.org](http://ncem.org), or call your county's Emergency Management Office.

The lane reversal evacuation plan was developed jointly by the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the North Carolina Department of Crime Control & Public Safety.

For more information on this plan and real-time travel information, visit [ncdot.org](http://ncdot.org), go to [Traffic & Travel Conditions](#), select [Real-Time Travel Info](#) and click [Emergency Info](#).



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SOUTHEASTERN COASTAL AREA  
NORTH CAROLINA

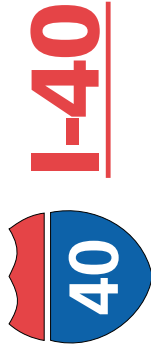


## Lane Reversal Hurricane Evacuation Plan

## Motorist Advisory

North Carolina Department of Transportation

North Carolina Department of  
Crime Control & Public Safety



# I-40 Lane Reversal Evacuation Plan

**WHO** This plan will affect motorists evacuating from the southeastern coastal area of North Carolina.

**WHY** To help move citizens safely and efficiently out of harm's way during large-scale evacuations.

**WHAT** If this plan is activated, I-40 East will be reversed to carry two lanes of westbound traffic. Traffic in the reversed lanes and regular westbound lanes will be able to exit and access I-40 at most exits. Law enforcement will be posted at each exit.

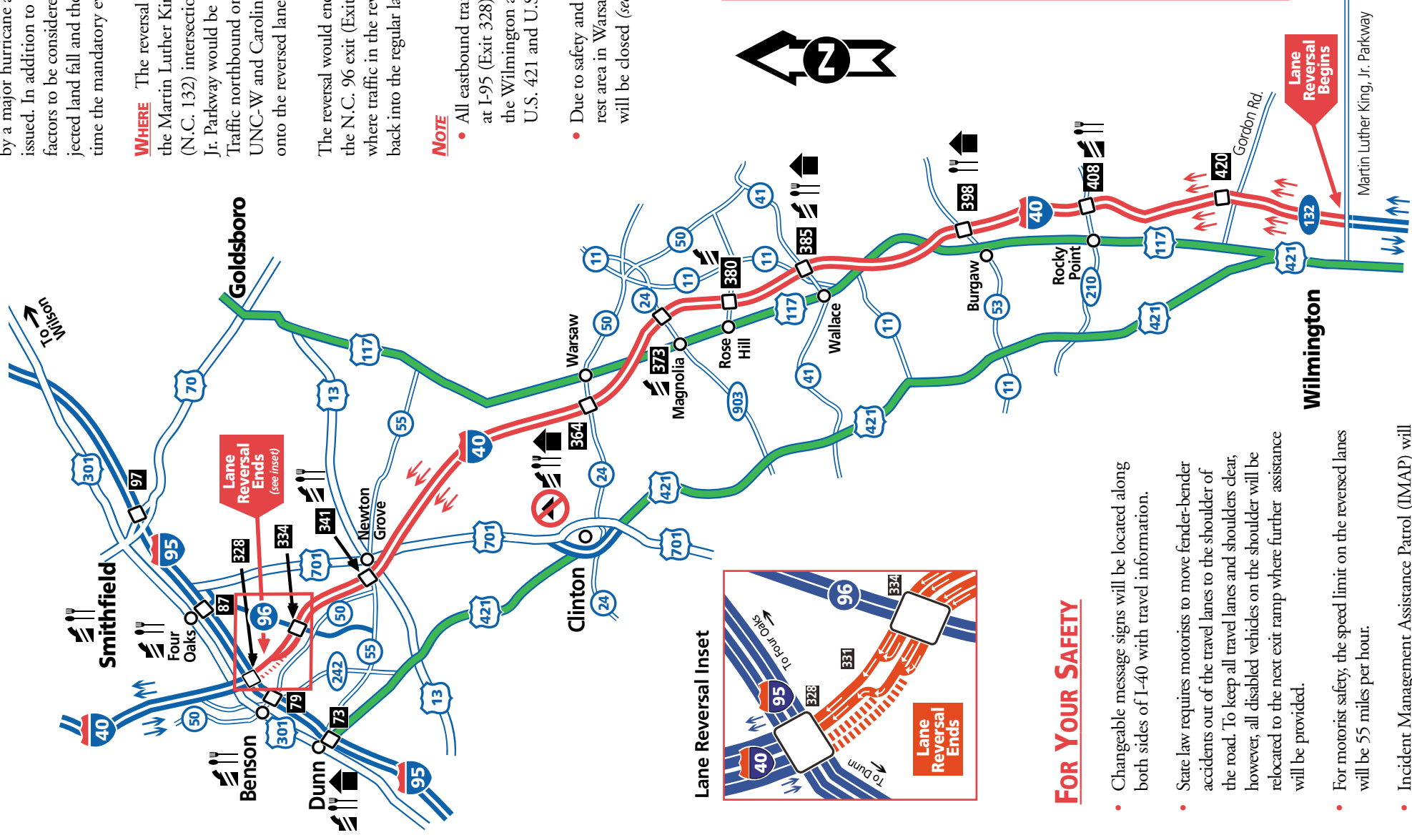
**WHEN** The reversal will be considered only when the southeastern coast of North Carolina is threatened by a major hurricane and mandatory evacuations are issued. In addition to the strength of the storm, other factors to be considered in the decision include projected land fall and the population remaining at the time the mandatory evacuation is ordered.

**WHERE** The reversal will begin in Wilmington at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway/College Road (N.C. 132) intersection. Traffic westbound on MLK, Jr. Parkway would be directed onto westbound I-40. Traffic northbound on College Road (such as from UNC-W and Carolina Beach) would be directed onto the reversed lanes of I-40.

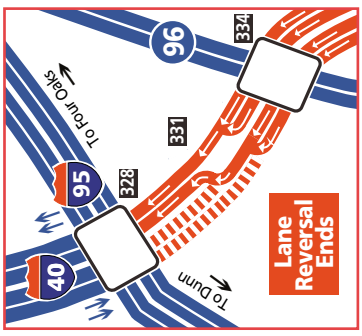
The reversal would end near mile marker 331 between the N.C. 96 exit (Exit 334) and I-95 exit (Exit 328) where traffic in the reversed lanes would be directed back into the regular lanes of I-40 westbound (*see inset*).

**NOTE**

- All eastbound traffic on I-40 must exit at I-95 (Exit 328). Emergency traffic can reach the Wilmington area via alternate routes such as U.S. 421 and U.S. 117.
- Due to safety and traffic flow concerns, the rest area in Warsaw at exit 364 on N.C. 24 will be closed (*see map*).



Lane Reversal Inset



**LEGEND**

- Gas\*
- Food\*
- Lodging\*
- Rest Area Closed
- Lane Reversal Area
- No Traffic Zone (End of Lane Reversal)
- Interstate Lanes Open
- Eastbound Alternate Route
- U.S. and State Roads (Connecting Routes)
- Exit Number
- Interchange

\*Availability of services may vary during an emergency — please plan accordingly.

Map illustration not to scale

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**FOR YOUR SAFETY**

- Changeable message signs will be located along both sides of I-40 with travel information.
- State law requires motorists to move fender-bender accidents out of the travel lanes to the shoulder of the road. To keep all travel lanes and shoulders clear, however, all disabled vehicles on the shoulder will be relocated to the next exit ramp where further assistance will be provided.
- For motorist safety, the speed limit on the reversed lanes will be 55 miles per hour.
- Incident Management Assistance Patrol (IMAP) will patrol the area and be available to assist motorists.