

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 20, 2024

TRAFFIC ALERT

Road and lane closures due to construction around the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center in Wilmington

- *The left lane of North King Street between 7th and 5th Streets will be closed starting Sept. 12, 2024 during Custom House construction.*
- *Entrance to the courthouse garage from King Street also will be closed intermittently, requiring parkers to enter and exit the garage from Walnut Street.*

Beginning Thursday, Sept. 12, 2024, drivers coming to the Leonard L. Williams Justice Center should be prepared for traffic delays on King Street and traffic pattern changes on Alico Road, which surrounds the Custom House and leads to the courthouse parking garage.

The lane closures and changes to Alico Road are necessary due to the ongoing renovation and expansion of the historic Custom House property at 516 N. King Street.

The left lane of N. King Street, directly in front of the Custom House, will be closed for up to 20 months during construction. In addition, a portion of Alico Road – which currently exits from the parking garage and leads to the traffic light near 6th Street– will be closed permanently due to the expansion of the Custom House.

The section of Alico Road that leads from N. King Street directly to the entrance of the parking garage will remain open – however – it will be subject to periodic lane closures and will be closed entirely for several weeks during the early phases of construction in the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025. Please check the [Delaware Judicial Branch website](#) for updates on the exact dates and times of those closures and to see a map of the lane and road closures.

During the construction, there will be access into and out of the courthouse parking garage from Walnut Street. (Using the address 537 North Walnut Street on a GPS device will bring you to the Walnut Street entrance.) The Delaware Judiciary also is encouraging the use of mass transportation to get to the Leonard Williams Justice Center during the construction period, as DART First State has several stops located near the courthouse.

During the construction, there will be no parking on Alico Road and no one may use Alico Road to drop off passengers at the courthouse. All drivers entering Alico Road will be required to enter the parking garage. Traffic on Alico Road and space limitations will prevent drivers from attempting to U-turn back onto N. King Street.

“During this period, Alico Road should only be used to enter the parking garage,” said Deputy Court Administrator Jaime Dolan. “We understand this will be an inconvenience, but we ask for your patience during construction for the safety of everyone entering the courthouse.”

These construction closures will also affect pedestrians, as the sidewalks in front of and behind the Custom House will be closed during construction.

Renovation of the Custom House, which was constructed in 1855, began in December 2023 and will expand the historic structure by adding 51,650 square feet to the existing 15,000 square foot building. Once opened, it will house the Delaware Supreme Court’s New Castle County chambers, as well as the Administrative Office of the Courts. The renovation also will restore the historic second floor courtroom in the building that was the first federal courtroom in the State of Delaware. Construction is expected to be completed in 2026.

Additional updates on traffic disruptions will be posted on the Delaware Judicial Branch website courts.delaware.gov/traffic during the construction.