



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
TRANSPORTATION CABINET
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Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

Jim Gray
SECRETARY

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

OFFICIAL ORDER NO. 112357

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY, DIRECTIVE THAT THROUGH COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ON I-71/I-75 INTERSTATES UTILIZE I-275

WHEREAS, On November 11, 2020, a commercial vehicle accident and fire occurred on the lower deck of the Brent Spence Bridge carrying I-71 and I-75 across the Ohio River from Kentucky to Cincinnati, Ohio, resulting in the closure of the bridge; and

WHEREAS, traffic volumes on the Brent Spence Bridge are estimated at 170,000 vehicles per day with 15% of those vehicles being commercial vehicles; and

WHEREAS, closure of the Brent Spence Bridge has resulted in commercial vehicles utilizing surface streets in downtown Covington and Newport, Kentucky in order to cross the Ohio River on the Clay Wade Bailey, John A. Roebling, and Taylor-Southgate Bridges; and

WHEREAS, this increased commercial traffic has resulted in substantially higher numbers of trucks on the city streets leading to these bridges and has created traffic congestion and traffic hazard issues in the Cities of Covington and Newport; and

WHEREAS, a requirement that commercial vehicles utilize I-275 will help to alleviate these traffic congestion and safety concerns; and

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vested in me in Executive Order 2020-947, KRS Chapter 39A, KRS 189.231 and KRS Chapter 177, I hereby declare:

1. That all North bound commercial vehicles on I-71 and I-75 shall utilize I-275 to river crossings on I-275 East or I-275 West or I-471; and
2. That this order shall not apply to local deliveries in Northern Kentucky except that no commercial vehicles are to use the John A. Roebling Bridge; and
3. Failure to comply with the provisions of this order will result in non-compliant commercial vehicles being redirected to I-275 and may result in the issuance of a citation by appropriate law enforcement personnel; and
4. The provisions of this order shall remain in effect until the repair construction of the Brent Spence Bridge is completed and the Brent Spence Bridge is reopened to commercial vehicle traffic.



Jim Gray, Secretary
Kentucky Transportation Cabinet

Done this 18th day of November, 2020 at Frankfort, Kentucky.

Approved as to form and legality:



Will Fogle, Attorney
KYTC, Office of Legal Services