

MEMO

TO: Janice Broome Brooks, Executive Director, DHS
FROM: Kelly Riley, Policy Liaison
DATE: November 7, 2001
SUBJECT: November 19th, 1:30 p.m., I-59 contraflow meeting at Governor's Office

The Mississippi Department of Transportation and the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development have developed a proposal to contraflow I-59 from New Orleans to Hattiesburg should an approaching hurricane require the evacuation of New Orleans. This would result in all lanes of I-59 carrying northbound traffic into and through Mississippi.

Several Mississippi agencies (MEMA, DPS, National Guard) have expressed concern as to the impact that the proposed contraflow will have on Mississippi's infrastructure, as well as on agency personnel and other resources. Governor Musgrove has requested that MDOT work with other Mississippi agencies to obtain the information required to determine the precise impact on state resources necessary to accommodate the contraflow implementation.

I will be hosting a meeting on behalf of Governor Musgrove on Monday, November 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the conference room on the 15th floor of the Woolfolk Building to review MDOT's draft contraflow plan and to solicit your agency's comments on such plan. MEMA representatives suggested that MDHS be involved in these discussions due to your agency's emergency sheltering activities.

Please appoint a representative of your agency to attend the meeting at 1:30 p.m. on November 19.

You may reach me at 359-2528 if you have any questions regarding this matter or if you require any additional information. Thank you.