



## MEMBER ALERT

**To:** ABA Motorcoach & Tour Operator Members

**From:** President & CEO Peter Pantuso

**Date:** May 21, 2009

**Subj:** Motorcoach Access to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History

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Effective May 20 there was a traffic pattern that changed on Madison Drive along the National Mall in front of the National Museum of American History (NMAH) due to a construction effort that will be ongoing for the next several months.

Changes resulted in parking restrictions on the south curb directly across the street from the NMAH, which will now become a travel lane. Jersey barriers and fencing have been installed by contractors along the museum's side of the street. The indented pull off at the Mall-side entrance and the curb lane on either side (East and West of the pull off) became contractor support space for accessing the site and staging equipment and material, which does provide a safety zone around the work area.

These modifications have resulted in two westbound travel lanes on Madison Drive between 12th and 14th Streets. There will be no vehicle or motorcoach parking in front of American History on the Mall side on either side of the street.

The Tourmobile stop was moved to the 12th Street and Madison Drive corner effective May 19.

There will be no vehicle drop-offs in front of the museum on the Mall side, only accessibility for pedestrians from the Mall side. All personal vehicle and motorcoach drop-offs should be on the Constitution Avenue side of American History, between 14th and 12th Streets. This side is ramped and fully accessible for disabled visitors.

For more information contact Katherine Ridgley, Director, Visitor Information and Associates' Reception Center at the Smithsonian Institution. She can be reached at 202-633-5262.