Baton Rouge, La. - The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) has developed a list of priority routes which they will strive to quickly and safely reopen in order to facilitate evacuation efforts in Tangipahoa Parish.

DOTD crews are working diligently to reopen area roadways closed during the storm. The routes that crews will be working to reopen first in Tangipahoa Parish include I-55, I-12, U.S. 51, U.S. 190 and La. 16.

DOTD urges motorists to use extra caution when traveling on roadways during hazardous weather conditions and stay off the roads whenever possible. Motorists should drive slowly and carefully, and avoid driving while distracted. Always allow for extra driving time, reduce speeds when visibility is low, and make sure there is plenty of room between vehicles. As always, DOTD reminds motorists to buckle up and refrain from drinking and driving.