

For Immediate Release:

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Route 1&9 Truck northbound ramp to Route 7 westbound to be closed and detoured as Wittpenn project advances Signed detour will be in place

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced ramp closures on Route 1&9 Truck and Route 7 as the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge replacement project advances between Kearny and Jersey City in Hudson County.

Beginning at 10 p.m., tonight, Friday, March 6, NJDOT's contractor George Harms Construction Co., is scheduled to close the Route 1&9 Truck northbound crossover ramp to Route 7 westbound. In case of inclement weather Friday night, this work will be postponed until Saturday, March 7. There will be separate car and truck detours.

This closure will allow the contractor to complete bridge abutments, erect steel beams, and construct the bridge deck. The new traffic pattern will have a continuous double right turn from Route 1&9 Truck southbound onto Route 7 westbound. The following signed detours are expected to remain in place until the Wittpenn Bridge is opened to traffic:

Route 1&9 Truck northbound to Route 7 westbound truck detour:

- Trucks wishing to take Route 1&9 Truck northbound to Route 7 westbound will be directed to keep right and take the ramp to James Avenue.
- Turn right onto Saint Paul's Avenue
- Turn left after crossing the railroad tracks onto the ramp to Route 1&9 Truck southbound towards Route 7 westbound to Kearny/Bayonne/Newark
- Take the ramp to Route 7 westbound

Route 440/Route 1&9 Truck northbound to Route 7 westbound <u>alternate truck</u> detour:

- Trucks traveling on Route 440 northbound may turn left at Communipaw Avenue onto Route 1&9 Truck southbound towards Kearny/Newark.
- Turn right onto the ramp towards Central Avenue/CR 659 and merge onto Central Avenue/CR 659
- Turn right onto Pennsylvania Avenue/Fish House Road
- Take the ramp and keep right to merge onto Route 7 westbound

(more)

Route 1&9 Truck northbound to Route 7 westbound car detour:

- Motorists wishing to take Route 1&9 Truck northbound to Route 7 westbound will be directed to keep right and take the ramp to James Avenue
- Turn left onto Saint Paul's Avenue
- Turn left onto the ramp towards Route 1&9 Truck southbound towards Bayonne
- Keep right and follow signs towards Route 7 westbound towards Kearny
- Take the ramp towards Route 7 westbound/Kearny

Saint Paul's Avenue/Duffield Avenue to Route 1&9 Truck northbound car detour:

- Motorists on Saint Paul's Avenue/Duffield Avenue wishing to access Route 1&9 Truck northbound will be directed to continue east on Saint Paul's Avenue
- Turn left onto Tonnele Avenue
- Enter the Tonnele Circle and take the exit towards Route 1&9 Truck northbound

Saint Paul's Avenue/Duffield Avenue to Route 1&9 Truck northbound truck detour:

- Trucks traveling on Saint Paul's Avenue/Duffield Avenue wishing to access Route 1&9
 Truck northbound will be directed to continue west on Saint Paul's Avenue towards
 Duffield Avenue.
- Turn left onto the ramp towards Route 1&9 Truck southbound towards Bayonne
- Continue on Route 1&9 Truck south to the sixth light at Stockton Avenue jughandle to return to Route 1&9 Truck northbound

The Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River project is completely replacing the existing bridge, which is in poor condition, with a new, wider vertical lift bridge. Construction of the new bridge is being accomplished in <u>five separate contracts</u>. The first two contracts that built the river piers, fender system and the east approach spans for the new vertical lift bridge have been completed. The third and fourth contracts of construction that will build the west approach spans, the Fish House Road Pump Station, advance utilities, embankment and the new vertical lift bridge span & towers are currently under construction. The new bridge is expected to be open to traffic in early 2021 and overall project to be completed in 2022.

Permanent and portable variable message signs are being utilized to provide advance notification to the public of all traffic pattern changes associated with the work.

The precise timing of the work is subject to change due to weather or other factors. Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website www.511nj.org for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NJDOT info or on the NJDOT facebook page.

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