

For Immediate Release: November 20, 2020 **Contact:** Steve Schapiro Mariluz Garcia-Diaz (609) 963-1975

Route 23 lane closure on Saturday as bridge replacement project advances in Sussex County Southbound traffic will be shifted onto newly completed bridge

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a weekend lane closure with alternating traffic on Route 23 as the Bridge over Beaver Run replacement project advances in Wantage, Sussex County.

Beginning at 7 a.m., Saturday, November 21, until 3 p.m., NJDOT's Contractor, Konkus Corp., is scheduled to close one lane on Route 23 near the Bridge over Beaver Run in Wantage, Sussex County. One lane will be maintained using alternating traffic. This closure will allow the contractor to install construction barrier to prepare for a traffic shift.

By 3 p.m., on Saturday, southbound traffic will be shifted onto the new bridge to allow for demolition of the temporary bridge, and removal of the existing eastern portion of the old bridge. This traffic pattern will remain in this configuration for the next several months. Route 23 northbound traffic was shifted onto the new structure during a previous stage of the project.

The \$3.8 million federally-funded Route 23 Bridge over the Beaver Run branch of the Wallkill River project will fully replace a structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridge with a three-sided precast concrete arch. The new bridge will have a 12-foot travel lane and an 8-foot shoulder in each direction, as well as a sidewalk on the west side of the bridge. The project will also replace the existing guiderail and resurface the bridge approaches. The bridge replacement project is expected to be completed in summer 2021.

Variable message signs are being utilized throughout the project limits to provide advance notification to motorists of all traffic pattern changes associated with the bridge replacement project. Throughout the project, NJDOT will provide information before any upcoming road or ramp closures.

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 <u>www.511nj.org</u> for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <u>@NJDOT info</u>.

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