

For Immediate Release:

July 30, 2021

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Route 3 eastbound lane closure Friday as Bridge over Conrail and NYS&W railroad replacement project advances in North Bergen Traffic to be shifted to newly built eastbound portion of the bridge

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced lane closures on Route 3 eastbound tonight as the Route 3 Bridge over Conrail; New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway (NYS&W) replacement project advances in North Bergen, Hudson County.

Beginning at 7 p.m. tonight, Friday, July 30 until 7 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, July 31, NJDOT's contractor, Ritacco Construction Inc., is scheduled to close the right lane on Route 3 eastbound between the Route 495 ramp onto Route 3 eastbound and Route 1&9 northbound interchange. The closure is necessary to restripe the road to implement a traffic shift. By 7 a.m. Saturday, both lanes of Route 3 eastbound traffic will be open and shifted onto the newly constructed side of the bridge. This will allow a center work zone to be created for the demolition and reconstruction of that part of the bridge. Route 3 westbound will not be affected. In addition, a new traffic signal at the Route 3 eastbound/Route 1&9 intersection will be activated.

The \$24.8 million project is federally funded through a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. It will replace the bridge located between the Route 495 Bridge over Route 3 on the west and Route 1&9/Tonnele Avenue on the east, near the south entrance to the NJ TRANSIT North Bergen Park & Ride lot. The new, wider bridge will improve safety by providing standard lane and shoulder widths and improved site distance. The sidewalk will be extended to connect the existing sidewalk on Route 1&9/Tonnele Avenue to the North Bergen Park and Ride.

In addition, the new Route 3 Bridge design eliminates the piers adjacent to the railroad tracks. This will improve rail service by allowing freight trains to transport higher and wider loads, as well as travel at higher speeds. It also will create increased spacing between the tracks, which is required to provide shared passenger and freight service. This expanded passenger and freight service will provide significant regional benefits to commuters and the freight industry from Passaic, Bergen, and Hudson counties.

The project will be constructed in five stages. The bridge will remain open in both directions during construction and pedestrian traffic will be maintained as well. The project is expected to be completed by summer 2023.

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 http://www.511nj.org for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NewJerseyDOT or on the NJDOT Facebook page.