



Virtual Public Information Center

February 16 – March 2, 2021

Route 15 Southbound, Bridge over Rockaway River
Township of Jefferson, Morris County

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and costs. NJDOT will hold a Virtual Public Information Center (PIC) to provide local residents and businesses with information on the **Route 15 Southbound, Bridge over Rockaway River** project. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by mail or e-mail.

THE MEETING

Due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency the Public Information Center will be held virtually. Please visit the following website at a time that is convenient for you between February 16 and March 2, 2021:

Route15SBPIC.com

The purpose of the presentation is to provide information about the proposed bridge replacement project. You will have an opportunity to review the presentation, exhibits of the draft plans, submit questions, and leave feedback. Property owners with rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate. If you are unable to view the presentation but are interested in learning about this project, please contact us at the telephone number or email address listed below.

BACKGROUND

Structure No. 1404-158, which carries Route 15 Southbound over the Rockaway River was originally constructed in 1900 and widened in 1947. The structure is in poor condition with deterioration in the original masonry abutments and advanced decay in the timber abutments and pier bents. The deck and superstructure are also in poor condition with visible deterioration in the underside and side faces of the concrete slab. The existing structure is considered scour critical. The structure is therefore proposed for replacement.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

The NJDOT proposes to replace the existing structure with a single span pre-stressed concrete box beam superstructure, one course deck construction wearing surface, and full height abutments on piles. It will feature two 12-foot wide travel lanes, 10-foot wide inside and outside shoulders, and sidewalks on both sides of the bridge. Due to the proposed structure type and the requirement to raise the existing structure beams above the 100-year flood elevation, the proposed bridge surface will be approximately 3.3 feet higher than the existing bridge surface. This will improve the existing vertical sag curve geometry and serve to improve stopping sight

distance along Route 15 southbound. The vertical profile of Cedar Terrace will also be raised to meet the Route 15 profile.

Bridge demolition and construction is proposed to occur in four main stages. Two lanes of Route 15 Southbound will be maintained during peak travel times.

Stage 1 – The east side of the existing Route 15 Southbound bridge will be rehabilitated to accommodate Stage 2 traffic. Temporary pavement will be constructed along the bridge approaches.

Stage 2 - The east side of Route 15 Southbound will be reconstructed while all southbound traffic is shifted to the west side of Route 15. The new bridge and pavement will be constructed, and temporary pavement will be required to allow for two travel lanes during the following stages.

Stage 3 – Southbound traffic will be shifted to the east side of Route 15. Cedar Terrace will then be reconstructed to meet the raised Route 15 profile. Access to Route 15 from Cedar Terrace will be maintained using a temporary roadway and access to Cedar Terrace from Route 15 will require alternating traffic under the direction of flagmen. After Cedar Terrace is completed, the bridge and roadway on the west side of Route 15 will be reconstructed.

Stage 4 – Temporary pavement will be removed. Sidewalk will be constructed and final easterly curbline will be restored. Final paving will then be completed.

Utility and access impacts are anticipated to be minor. Right-of-way will be required (partial acquisitions and easements). NJDEP Flood Hazard Area, Freshwater Wetland, and Freshwater Wetland Transition Area permit approvals are also required.

PROJECT SCHEDULE (contingent upon funding)

Complete Design: Fall 2021
Start Construction: Summer 2022
Complete Construction: Fall 2025

For further information, please contact:

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Or please provide comments at: Route15SBPIC.com