



Virtual Public Information Center

Route 27 NB (Cherry Street) over Conrail Route 27 SB Section Z (Chilton Street) over Conrail

City of Elizabeth, Union County

June 11, 2021 – June 29, 2021

<https://taylorwiseman.com/njdotvirtualpic/route27bridgesreplacement/>

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements which best balance transportation needs, community concerns, the environment and cost, will hold a **Public Information Center** to inform local residents, public officials and the business community about the **Route 27 (Cherry Street and Chilton Street) over Conrail** bridge replacement projects. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by e-mail.

Website Presentation

The Public Information Center will be held virtually from June 11, 2021 through June 29, 2021, and can be accessed at the following internet location:

<https://taylorwiseman.com/njdotvirtualpic/route27bridgereplacement/>

Project Overview

The purpose of the project is to provide a reliable and safe crossing of Cherry Street and Chilton Street bridges over Conrail to better serve the traveling public and surrounding communities. To achieve this, bridge replacements are recommended based on the bridge condition, geometry, and highway safety project needs. The existing bridges' superstructure and deck are in poor condition. The bridges are located on State Highway Route 27 and are under NJDOT jurisdiction.

There were several alternatives considered during the concept development phase of the project. The proposed Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) for both bridges recommend replacing the existing 90-foot single-span truss bridges with a shorter (56-foot single span) multi-stringer bridge with reinforced concrete abutments. The proposed abutments will be located to provide for two rail lines (52-foot face to face of abutments). The bridge deck will consist of a 9-inch thick cast-in-place concrete deck, bridge parapets, and fencing. The existing roadway curb-to-curb width will be maintained at 36 feet, as well as the width of the existing sidewalks (two 10-foot sidewalks along Cherry Street and two 8-foot sidewalks along Chilton Street). The one-way, 2 lane roadways, will be striped to provide two 12-foot lanes and two 5-foot (minimum) wide shoulders.

The proposed bridge under clearance above the tracks, will be increased by 3 inches to provide 17 feet ,4 inches. The roadway currently has a posted speed limit of 30 mph (Cherry Street) and 35 mph (Chilton Street). The roadway profile will be raised approximately 1.7 feet at the Cherry Street bridge and 2.4 feet at Chilton Street.

Right-of-way (ROW) impacts are comprised of temporary construction and aerial utility easements for the rebuilding or replacing of retaining walls, driveway regrading or constructing landscaping walls. Utility impacts are limited to temporarily relocating the aerial electrical lines and replacing the water main (Cherry Street) and gas main (Chilton Street) within the bridge superstructure. The aerial electrical lines will be returned to their original locations at the end of construction.

Based on the type of the existing bridge (truss), the bridges cannot be removed in stages but must be removed all at once, therefore the traffic will be detoured during the bridge replacement, which is anticipated to take an estimated 12 months.

Estimated Schedule (Cherry Street)

Preliminary Engineering	2021
Final Design	2021-2023
Construction:	2023-2024

Estimated Schedule (Chilton Street)

Preliminary Engineering	2021 - 2023
Final Design	2023 – 2024
Construction:	2024 – 2025

For more information, please contact:

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