



Virtual Public Information Center

Washington Turnpike (Godfrey Bridge Road), Bridge over West Branch of Wading River

Date: December 1, 2022 – December 15, 2022
Washington Township, Burlington County, NJ

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns, and costs is holding a **Virtual Public Information Center (PIC)** to provide local residents, officials, and businesses with information on the **Washington Turnpike (Godfrey Bridge Road), Bridge over West Branch of Wading River project**. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by mail or email.

THE PRESENTATION

The Public Information Center will be held virtually. Please visit the following website any time between **December 1 and December 15, 2022** to learn more about the project and leave comments:

<https://development-mt.com/WashingtonTurnpike/>

You will have an opportunity to review a presentation, 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 NJDOT at the telephone number or email address listed below.

BACKGROUND

Godfrey Bridge Road, Bridges over West Branch of Wading River are two independent structures (Structures No. 3845-166 and 3845-167) with a 31-foot-long section of roadway built on fill between them. The bridges are located in Washington Township within Wharton State Forest and the New Jersey Pinelands Area. The existing bridges are multi-span timber structures that were constructed in 1944 with no subsequent rehabilitation. The typical cross section for both bridges consist of a 3-foot high modified guide rail on each side and one 12-foot travel lane with no shoulders. The existing bridges serve local traffic and carry Washington Turnpike in an east-west direction connecting County Route 563, on the east side of the structure, to Godfrey Bridge

Campground and other amenities, on the west side of the structure.

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the project is to address declining conditions of the Godfrey Bridge Road over West Branch of Wading River and to enhance the safety of the traveling public on the structure. Both bridges are in poor condition. Both existing structures are load-posted for "5 TONS" gross load limit. Many bridge components exhibit rutting, medium to wide splits, checks, moderate to severe weathering and or decay, and some of the members are missing.

PROPOSED PROJECT

Proposed improvements include the following:

- Full Bridge Replacement of the two existing timber structures with a single 3-span reinforced concrete bridge
- Widen the existing 12'-0" travel lane to 13'-6"
- Provide bridge parapets with architectural treatments and guiderail attachments to meet current standards
- Maintain the existing horizontal and vertical alignments.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Wharton State Forest is a public park, and a Section 4(f) resource. Any temporary impacts to park property or recreational activities will require coordination with NJDEP State Park Service.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Federal regulations pertaining to the protection of historic properties, referred to as the Section 106 process, require the NJDOT to take into account the effect of proposed projects upon historic resources listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Information about the process is available at <https://www.achp.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2017-01/CitizenGuide.pdf>.



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NJDOT is required to solicit public input to assist it to carry out the Section 106 process. Historic preservation organizations, historical societies, and similar groups, or individuals with information about cultural resources (archaeological or architectural) in the project area are encouraged to attend the Public Information Center or comments may be submitted to:

Brenna Fairfax
Bureau of Landscape Architecture & Environmental Solutions
New Jersey Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 600, Trenton, NJ 08625-0600
Brenna.Fairfax@dot.nj.gov

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE

- Start Final Design: Winter 2022
- Start Construction: Fall 2025
- Complete Construction: Summer 2026

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Ms. Kimberley Nance, Regional Coordinator
Office of Community Relations
New Jersey Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 600, 1035 Parkway Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600
Phone: 609-963-1982
Email: Kimberly.Nance@dot.nj.gov

LOCATION MAP:

