



Public Information Center
August 23, 2023 – September 6, 2023 (Virtual)
August 31, 2023 (In-person)
Route 202, First Avenue Intersection Improvements
Borough of Raritan, Somerset County

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and costs, will hold a Public Information Center (PIC) to provide residents and businesses with information on the **Route 202, First Avenue Intersection Improvements Project** that is currently in the Final Design Phase. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by mail or e-mail.

THE PRESENTATION

Please visit the following website at a time that is convenient for you between August 23, 2023 and September 6, 2023:

<https://gpi1966.wixsite.com/NJDOTRoute202-1stInt>

Also, we cordially invite you to attend in-person for the Public Information Center meeting to take place on **Thursday, August 31, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the Community Center basement, Raritan Borough Municipal Building, 22 First Street, Raritan, NJ.**

The purpose of the presentation is to provide information about the proposed intersection improvements project. You will have an opportunity to review the presentation, submit questions, and leave feedback to the NJDOT. 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

The Route 202 and First Avenue intersection currently experiences significant congestion during the peak hours along with gridlock at the intersection of First Avenue and the Route 202 southbound forward jughandle. During the AM and PM peak hours, the intersection has high delays and long queue lengths, which may indicate that the volume exceeds the capacity of the movement or roadway.

THE PROPOSED PROJECT

NJDOT proposes to construct an auxiliary lane along Route 202 in both directions through the intersection with First Avenue. Most of the widening would occur in the

existing grass median which would be replaced with concrete barrier. The existing Route 202 southbound jughandle would be replaced with a new jughandle ramp that will run along Leland Street and tie into First Avenue. The new ramp location will eliminate Leland Street and require a cul-de-sac on Danbury Avenue.

At the intersection's new traffic signal, the First Avenue southbound approach would consist of an exclusive left turn lane, a through/right turn lane, and one receiving lane for opposing traffic. The northbound approach would consist of an exclusive left turn lane, a through lane, and exclusive right turn lane and one receiving lane for opposing traffic. The side street signal phasing will be changed from split phasing to protected/permitted. Pedestrian Accommodations will be provided at the intersection and other areas within the project limits. The proposed improvements will impact 17 residential driveways along Route 202 southbound, First Avenue and Leland Street as well as require right-of-way acquisitions or easements from 23 properties. A camera to monitor traffic conditions will be added south of the intersection. Various minor utility impacts are anticipated.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Since the improvements require adherence to the NJDEP Stormwater Management Rules, proposed basins in the Route 202 southbound jughandle infield and along Route 202 southbound prior to the jughandle ramp, combined with a manufactured treatment device (MTD) are proposed. Every effort will be made to avoid or minimize impacts to any environmental resources within the project area.

PROJECT SCHEDULE (contingent upon availability of funds)

Complete Design: Fall 2024
Start Construction: Spring 2025
Complete Construction: Summer 2026

For further information, please contact:

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