

For Immediate Release:

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I-78 Bridges over Route 202/Route 206 and Washington Valley Road project begins next week in Somerset County Daytime right lane and shoulder closures begin Monday

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the beginning of a bridge replacement project on I-78 in Bedminster and Bridgewater, Somerset County.

The project will replace four separate bridges that carry eastbound and westbound traffic on I-78 over Route 202/Route 206 and Washington Valley Road. The existing spans are in poor condition. To minimize the effect to traffic, the project will replace the bridges in stages.

Beginning at 9 a.m., Monday, December 9, until 2 p.m., and continuing daily, Monday through Friday, NJDOT's contractor Konkus, Inc., is scheduled to close the right lane and shoulder of I-78 westbound in the vicinity of the bridges to mill edge line rumble strips to prepare for a traffic shift. The right lane and shoulder on I-78 eastbound will be closed following completion of work on the westbound roadway. This phase of the project is estimated to take several weeks.

When this work is complete, temporary bridges will be constructed between the roadways to maintain all lanes of traffic during construction. The eastbound bridges will be replaced first, followed by the westbound bridges.

The \$27.9 million federally-funded project will replace both eastbound and westbound spans, which are in poor condition. In addition, the existing guiderail will be brought up to current standards. The project was designed to advance in stages to minimize impact on motorists, beginning with the eastbound bridges. Construction of all bridges is expected to be completed by the end of 2022.

Variable Message Signs will provide advance notification to motorists of traffic pattern changes associated with the work. 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 www.511nj.org for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NJDOT info and on the NJDOT Facebook page.