

For Immediate Release: December 27, 2019

Contact: Mairin Bellack Brian Ahrens 609-963-1975

## I-78 lane closures required as Bridges over Route 202/206 and Washington Valley Road project advances in Somerset County Right lane will be closed in both directions to prepare for traffic shift

**(Trenton)** – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a series of staggered lane closures as the I-78 Bridges over Route 202/206 and Washington Valley Road replacement project advances in Bedminster and Bridgewater, Somerset County.

Beginning at 8 p.m. tonight, Friday, December 27, NJDOT's contractor Konkus, Inc., is scheduled to close the right lane and shoulder of I-78 eastbound in the vicinity of the bridges to prepare for a traffic shift. The center lane is scheduled be closed at 10 p.m. for roadway restriping. By 6 a.m. tomorrow morning, Saturday, December 28, the center lane will be reopened and traffic will be shifted to the left into the shoulder.

Beginning at 8 p.m., Saturday, December 28, the right lane and shoulder of I-78 westbound will be closed to prepare for a traffic shift. The center lane will be closed at 10 p.m. for roadway restriping. By 6 a.m. Sunday morning, December 29, the center lane will be reopened and traffic will be shifted to the left into the shoulder.

During this phase of the project, temporary bridges and roadways will be constructed between the eastbound and westbound lanes to maintain traffic throughout the project. This phase of construction is anticipated to be complete by spring 2020.

The \$27.9 million federally-funded project will replace both eastbound and westbound bridge decks over Route 202/Route 206 and Washington Valley Road, 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 <u>www.511nj.org</u> for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <u>@NJDOT info</u> and on the <u>NJDOT</u> <u>Facebook page</u>.

# # #