

For Immediate Release: March 27, 2020 Contact: Steve Schapiro Brian Ahrens (609) 963-1975

Route 46 eastbound ramps to Oak Hill Road to be permanently closed as Route 3/Route 46 improvement project advances Closures will allow for roadway improvements

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the permanent ramp closure of the Route 46 eastbound ramps to and from Oak Hill Road as the Route 3/Route 46 interchange improvement project advances in Clifton, Passaic County. In addition, Melody Hill Road will be permanently closed at Route 46 westbound next week, with access maintained through St. Philips Drive and Brooks Avenue.

Beginning at 9 p.m. tonight, Friday, March 27, NJDOT's contractor, Union Paving & Construction Co., is scheduled to permanently close the ramps from Route 46 eastbound to Oak Hill Road and from Oak Hill Road to Route 46 eastbound. Closing these ramps will allow the contractor to make improvements on Oak Hill Road, including widening the roadway and erecting a noise wall. The following new traffic patterns will be in place:

Route 46 eastbound to Oak Hill Road detour:

- Motorists wishing to take Route 46 eastbound to Oak Hill Road should continue on Route 46 eastbound
- Stay right towards Route 3 eastbound
- Take the Grove Street exit
- Keep left on the ramp to turn left onto Grove Street
- Take the ramp for Route 3 westbound
- Route 3 westbound becomes Route 46 westbound
- Take the Great Notch Road exit
- Keep right at the fork to turn right onto Great Notch Road
- Turn right onto Valley Road southbound
- Turn right onto Oak Hill Road

Oak Hill Road to Route 46 eastbound/Route 3 eastbound detour:

- Motorists wishing to take Oak Hill Road to Route 46 eastbound/Route 3 eastbound should turn right onto Valley Road
- Stay in the left lane and turn left onto the ramp for Route 46/Route 3 eastbound

Route 46 eastbound to Valley Road southbound:

- Motorists wishing to take Route 46 eastbound to Valley Road southbound should continue on Route 46 eastbound
- Stay right towards Route 3 eastbound
- Take the Grove Street exit
- Keep left on the ramp to turn left onto Grove Street
- Take the ramp for Route 3 westbound
- Route 3 westbound becomes Route 46 westbound
- Take the Great Notch Road exit
- Keep right at the fork to turn right onto Great Notch Road
- Turn right onto Valley Road southbound

The \$189 million federally-funded Contract B portion of the <u>the Route 3</u>, <u>Route 46</u>, <u>Valley Road and</u> <u>Notch/Rifle Camp Road Interchange Improvements project</u> includes the realignment and widening of Route 46, as well as the construction of wider shoulders, acceleration, deceleration, and auxiliary lanes. At the Route 3/Route 46 interchange, a three lane Route 3 section will replace the existing two lane connections, and Route 46 will be realigned to better converge with Route 3. The new interchange includes four new bridge structures, a new signalized intersection, and a new multi-lane roundabout. This work is anticipated to be complete in 2024.

Contract A, which was completed in fall 2019, included the construction the new Great Notch Road Road, a new bridge over Route 46 from Great Notch Road to Clove Road, three signalized intersections, and two single-lane roundabouts parallel to Route 46 westbound to remove local traffic from the state highway.

Variable message signs are being utilized throughout the project limits to provide advance notification to motorists of all traffic pattern changes associated with the interchange improvements project. Throughout the project, NJDOT will provide information on upcoming road or ramp closures.

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> or on the <u>NJDOT Facebook page</u>.

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