

For Immediate Release:

May 1, 2020

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I-78 express lane closures scheduled to begin next week in Union and Essex Counties Traffic will be shifted to local lanes during construction

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the I-78 express lanes will be closed next week near the Garden State Parkway through approximately Exit 58/New Jersey Turnpike in Union and Essex Counties as a pavement preservation project continues. This work was previously scheduled to begin Monday, April 27, but was postponed due to weather.

Beginning at 5 a.m., Monday, May 4, NJDOT's contractor, D'Annunzio and Sons, Inc., will close the I-78 eastbound express lanes at the crossover to Newark Airport adjacent to Exit 52/Garden State Parkway through Exit 58/New Jersey Turnpike in order to mill and pave the road. The road also will be treated with a High Performance Thin Overlay (HPTO).

Work will begin on the eastbound express lanes with traffic shifted to the local lanes at the crossover to Newark Airport adjacent to Exit 52/Garden State Parkway. Later in the week, once the eastbound lanes are completed, work will move to the westbound express lanes, with traffic being shifted to the local lanes at the crossover for the Garden State Parkway adjacent to Exit 55/Hillside/Irvington. If work is completed early, the express lanes will reopen sooner.

The \$7.5 million federally-funded project will mill and pave approximately four miles of I-78 from Union Avenue in Hillside, Union County to Exit 58/New Jersey Turnpike in Newark, Essex County. The pavement project will include resurfacing of all travel lanes, turn lanes, inside and outside shoulders, acceleration and deceleration lanes and all median openings including intersections and ramps. The work will extend the functional life of the roadway and improve ride quality.

Variable Message Signs will provide advance notification to motorists of the 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.