

For Immediate Release:

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Route 72 and local roads to be repaved beginning Friday as the East Road project nears completion in Stafford Local roads to be milled and paved first

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced overnight lane closures on Route 72 and numerous local roads for final milling and paving as the East Road project nears completion in Stafford, Ocean County. The overnight closures will begin on Friday with side streets and then move to Route 72.

Beginning at 8 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, May 29, until 7 a.m., Saturday, May 30, and continuing overnight for approximately one month, NJDOT's contractor Earle Asphalt Co., will begin by closing local roads for final milling and paving. Upon completion of the local roads, paving work will move to Route 72.

Route 72 paving work will require multiple lane and shoulder closures overnight in both directions between the Garden State Parkway and Martin Truex Boulevard. At least one lane on Route 72 in each direction will be maintained overnight while paving is taking place.

The following local roads will be milled and paved beginning Friday, May 29 at 8 p.m. (Roads are not listed in the order that they will be paved):

- West Road
- East Road
- Washington Avenue
- West Connector Road
- Doc Cramer Boulevard
- Martin Truex Boulevard

The \$11.6 million federally-funded Route 72 East Road project made highway and signal intersection improvements to address congestion and safety concerns. Improvements included the addition of a 10-foot shoulder in each direction on Route 72 between the Garden State Parkway and the Stafford Square Shopping Center, median widening, new barrier curbs, plus new traffic signals and roadway improvements at two Route 72 intersections - Roosevelt Boulevard and Doc Cramer Boulevard.

A new culvert and a revised jug handle circling a water basin from Route 72 westbound to a relocated East Road were constructed and moved approximately 200 feet east from its previous location. In addition, two new storm water basins were constructed further down on Route 72 westbound, and West Road was relocated east from its current location between McDonalds and Mr. Tire to a new location between Element Restaurant and Starboard Plaza. Washington Road, located parallel to Route 72 now ends at the new West Road.

Construction is expected to be completed in late summer 2020. 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 construction updates and real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information website www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter www.NJDOT info or on the NJDOT Facebook page.