

For Immediate Release:

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## Route 7 west ramp to Fish House Road closed overnight this week as the Wittpenn Bridge project advances Detour necessary to install steel beams over ramp and roadway

**(Trenton)** – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the Route 7 westbound ramp to Fish House Road will be closed and detoured overnight this week for the placement of steel beams as the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge project advances between Kearny and Jersey City in Hudson County.

Beginning at 9 p.m. tonight, Monday, July 20, until 5 a.m. the next day, and continuing Monday through Friday nights this week, NJDOT's contractor Georges Harms Construction Co. Inc., will close and detour the Route 7 westbound ramp to Fish House Road to erect steel beams over the ramp, over Fish House Road, and over a portion of the new Route 7 roadway, which is not yet open. The following detour will be in place overnight:

## Route 7 westbound ramp to Fish House Road detour:

- Motorists on Route 7 westbound wishing to take the exit to Fish House Road will be directed to continue on Route 7 westbound
- Stay left and take the exit for CR 508/I-280/NJ Turnpike Harrison/Newark
- Stay right and take the exit for Route 7 eastbound to Route 1&9/Jersey City
- Continue on Route 7 eastbound over the Wittpenn Bridge
- At the traffic signal, turn right onto Route 1&9 Truck south
- Turn right at the intersection with Communipaw Avenue/Route 440 to stay on Route 1 &9 Truck
- Turn right onto Central Avenue
- Turn right on Pennsylvania Avenue, which becomes Fish House Road

The Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River project is completely replacing the existing bridge, which is in poor condition, with a new, wider vertical lift bridge. Construction of the new bridge is being accomplished in <u>five separate contracts</u>. The first two contracts that built the river piers, fender system and the east approach spans for the new vertical lift bridge have been completed. The third and fourth contracts of construction that will build the west approach spans, the Fish House Road Pump Station, advance utilities, embankment and the new vertical lift bridge span & towers are currently under construction. The new bridge is expected to be open to traffic in early 2021 and overall project to be completed in 2022.

Permanent and portable Variable Message Signs are being utilized to provide advance notification to the public of all 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 <a href="www.511nj.org">www.511nj.org</a> for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <a href="www.511nj.org">@NJDOT info</a> or on the <a href="NJDOT Facebook page">NJDOT Facebook page</a>.

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