

For Immediate Release:

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## Route 46 lane closure and traffic shift required Friday as Passaic Avenue to Willowbrook Mall project advances

Route 46 eastbound traffic to be shifted onto newly constructed bridge

**(Trenton)** – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a lane closure and traffic shift on Route 46 eastbound between Passaic Avenue/CR 613 and Pompton Avenue/Route 23 as the Route 46 at Passaic Avenue to Willowbrook Mall project advances between Fairfield, Essex County and Wayne, Passaic County.

Beginning at 3 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, November 6 until 3:30 p.m. the same day, NJDOT's contractor, Anselmi & DeCicco, Inc., is scheduled to close the left lane on Route 46 eastbound between Passaic Avenue/CR 613 and Pompton Avenue/Route 23 to restripe the road and remove construction barrier. The closure is necessary to shift traffic to the left onto the newly constructed north side of the bridge over the Passaic River. One lane of traffic will be maintained.

After traffic is shifted, the right lane will be closed to install construction barrier along the right shoulder in preparation for the demolition of the existing Route 46 eastbound bridge and construction of the south side of the new bridge, as well as an auxiliary lane. Once the work is complete Friday afternoon, two lanes of eastbound traffic will be open. Access to all driveways and businesses also will remain open. The new traffic pattern will be in place until spring 2022.

The \$40 million federally-funded Route 46 Bridge over the Passaic River to Willowbrook Mall project will replace the existing eastbound bridge and widen Route 46 in both directions from two lanes to three lanes in each direction to enhance safety and ease traffic congestion. Four new overhead sign structures will be built. The project will be completed in three stages with some construction activities being performed at night to reduce the impact to the public. The project is expected to be completed in late 2022.

Portable variable message signs are being utilized to provide advance notification to the motoring 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 and updates follow us on the <a href="NJDOT Facebook page">NJDOT Facebook page</a> or on Twitter <a href="www.511nj.org">QNJDOT info</a>.