

For Immediate Release:

July 16, 2021

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Route 22 eastbound overnight lane closures necessary as Bridge over Chestnut Street replacement project advances in Union Closures needed to shift eastbound traffic onto westbound roadway

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced an overnight lane closure on Route 22 eastbound on tonight to shift traffic, as the project to replace the Bridge over Chestnut Street/CR 619 advances in Union Township, Union County.

Beginning at 10 p.m. tonight, Friday, July 16, until 6 a.m., Saturday, July 17, NJDOT's contractor, Ritacco Construction, is scheduled close the left lane on Route 22 eastbound near the Bridge over Chestnut Street/CR 619 in Union Township. This closure is necessary to restripe the roadway and place construction barrier to shift eastbound traffic onto the westbound side of the highway. The westbound lanes were shifted onto a temporary bridge on June 25.

By Saturday morning, the eastbound traffic will be shifted onto the westbound side of the bridge and the westbound traffic will continue to use the temporary bridge. **The temporary bridge has two 11-foot-wide lanes. Overweight trucks (80,000 pound or heavier) are restricted and should follow the signed detour.** This configuration will be in place for approximately four months while the eastbound side of the bridge is demolished and reconstructed.

The \$22.7 million federally-funded Route 22 Bridge over Chestnut Street/CR 626 replacement project will replace the existing bridge, which is in poor condition. The new structure will be wider than the existing bridge and will provide two standard 12-foot travel lanes and an 8-foot shoulder in each direction. The project is being constructed in stages to minimize impact to traffic. The bridges are expected to be completed in late 2022.

Variable message signs are being utilized throughout the project limits to provide advance notification to motorists of all traffic pattern changes associated with the bridge replacements. 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 @NewJerseyDOT or on the NJDOT Facebook page.