

For Immediate Release: July 16, 2021 Contact: Jim Barry Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

I-295 northbound lane closure next week to begin installation of temporary Browning Road Bridge Temporary bridge to be used while new Browning Road Bridge is built

(Trenton) - New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a lane closure on I-295 northbound next week to begin installation of the temporary Browning Road Bridge as the Direct Connection project advances in Bellmawr, Camden County.

Beginning at 10 a.m. next Friday, July 23 until 2 p.m., NJDOT's contractor, South State, Inc. is scheduled to close the right lane on I-295 northbound just past the Creek Road overpass before Exit 26 where the highway splits for I-76 toward Philadelphia/I-295 toward Trenton. The closure will continue past Browning Road to allow the contractor to begin the installation of the temporary Browning Road Bridge. It will be located north of the existing bridge and carry two lanes of traffic, pedestrians, and utilities during construction of the new Browning Road Bridge.

The temporary bridge will be assembled in three main sections. As each section is completed, it will be pushed or launched into place. The first push will result in an approximately 100-foot section of the temporary bridge beyond the east abutment and will stop short of the northbound lanes. The second push will extend the temporary bridge across all of Route 42 northbound to the center pier in the median and partially over the Route 42 southbound lanes. The third push will extend the temporary bridge across all lanes.

After the entire temporary bridge is installed, there will be several additional weeks of work before traffic is shifted from the existing bridge to the temporary bridge. This includes completing the approaches, installing deck panels, securing utilities, and completing the pedestrian walkway. The temporary bridge is expected to be in service in the fall.

Once traffic is on the temporary bridge, the demolition of the existing bridge and construction of new median piers can begin. The demolition will be conducted overnight to minimize impacts to traffic. The temporary bridge is expected to be in use for approximately 18 months.

The work is part of the Direct Connection project that will provide a seamless route for I-295 motorists traveling through the interchange of I-295, I-76, and Route 42. To sign up for I-295 Direct Connect project updates go to <u>295DirectConnect.com</u> or text CONNECT to 1-844-844-3681.

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 <u>www.511nj.org</u> for real-time travel information, and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <u>@NewJerseyDOT</u> or on the <u>NJDOT</u> <u>Facebook page</u>.

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