

For Immediate Release:

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## Route 34 lane closures required as the Bridge over the Edgar Felix Bikeway project advances in Wall Traffic to be shifted onto new roadway as project enters next stage

**(Trenton)** – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced lane closures on Route 34 as the Route 34 Bridge over Former Freehold and Jamesburg Railroad/Edgar Felix Memorial Bikeway replacement project advances in Wall, Monmouth County.

Beginning at 8 p.m. tonight, Tuesday, July 27 until 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 28, NJDOT's contractor, Green Construction, will close the right lane of Route 34 southbound, between Atlantic Avenue and Paynters Road to pave the newly constructed right side of the roadway.

On Wednesday, July 28 from 8 p.m. until 6 a.m., Thursday, July 29, traffic will be shifted to the right to create a center median construction zone. One lane of traffic will be maintained overnight. By 6 a.m. Thursday, two lanes of traffic will be open and shifted to the right.

Next week, Route 34 northbound will have overnight lane closures for paving and to shift traffic to create a center median construction zone on that side. This will allow for the demolition of the center of the old bridge and construction of the remaining drainage systems. In addition, a retention basin will be constructed and a Dynamic Message Sign will be put into service to provide motorist information.

The shifts mark the start of the final stage of construction of the \$9.7 million federally-funded Route 34 Bridge over the Former Freehold and Jamesburg Railroad, now the Edgar Felix Memorial Bikeway, project. The Route 34 Bridge spans the 5.5-mile Edgar Felix Memorial Bikeway, which is expected to reopen in the next several weeks. A new culvert was constructed under the roadway to accommodate the bike path. When completed, the new roadway will have two standard 12-foot lanes in each direction and 10-foot wide shoulders. Originally, the road had 10-foot lanes with two-foot shoulders. The roadway profile was lowered to improve sight distance for added safety.

The project was constructed in stages to minimize the impact on the public and is expected to be completed by fall, 2021.

Variable Message Signs (VMS) will provide advance notification to motorists of 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="https://www.511nj.org">www.511nj.org</a> for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <a href="https://www.subscripts.com/www.sub