

For Immediate Release:

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Contact: Jim Barry

Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

Route 71 moveable bridge over Shark River closed for emergency repairs in Monmouth County Boats will not be able to pass bridge

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the closure and detour of Route 71 for emergency repairs to the drawbridge over Shark River between Belmar and Avon by the Sea in Monmouth County.

At approximately 5:00 a.m. today, Wednesday, September 22, the Route 71 drawbridge over the Shark River between Belmar and Avon by the Sea became stuck in a partially-opened position. Route 71 is closed and detoured in both directions until further notice. In addition, boats will not be able to pass under the bridge until further notice. NJDOT engineers are in the process of evaluating the situation. The following detours will be in place:

Route 71 Main Street northbound from Belmar to Avon by the Sea Detour:

- Motorists on Route 71 northbound will be directed to turn left onto Eighth Avenue
- Turn right on Route 35
- Continue over the Route 35/Shark River Bridge and follow signs for Avon by the Sea

Route 71 Main Street southbound from Avon by the Sea to Belmar Detour:

- Motorists on Route 71 southbound will be directed to turn right onto Sylvania Avenue
- Stay right and take the ramp to Route 35 South/Belmar
- Take Route 35 over the Shark River Bridge into Belmar
- Turn left onto Eighth Avenue and follow to Main Street

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 @NewJerseybot or on the NJDOT Facebook page.