

For Immediate Release:

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## Route 18 northbound lane closures required tomorrow night as paving project begins in East Brunswick, Middlesex County Closures necessary for underground utility relocation

**(Trenton)** – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced that two lanes on Route 18 northbound will be closed tomorrow night in East Brunswick, Middlesex County.

Beginning at 11 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, January 6, until 7 a.m., Saturday, January 7, NJDOT's contractor, Earle Asphalt, is scheduled to close the center and right lanes on Route 18 northbound between West Prospect Street and Old Bridge Turnpike. By Saturday morning, the center lane will reopen, and the right lane will remain closed. The closure is necessary to create a work zone for underground utility relocation and is expected to remain in place for a few weeks. At least one lane of traffic will be maintained overnight. Access to local businesses will be maintained during business hours. Motorists are advised to slow down, use caution, and expect delays or plan an alternate route.

This is the first of five work zones that will require a right lane closure for utility work on Route 18 northbound. Utility relocation is expected to continue through fall 2023. NJDOT will provide prior notice, as the project advances to a new work zone.

This work is part of the \$86.1 million federally-funded Route 18, East Brunswick, Drainage and Pavement Rehabilitation project that will make repairs on approximately four and a half miles of Route 18 in East Brunswick, Middlesex County. Work includes milling and paving, improvements to the drainage systems and storm water basins, utility relocation, installation of new sidewalks and ADA-compliant curb ramps, and upgrading guiderail. Improvements will also be made to various intersections throughout the project limits. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2026.

Variable messaging 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 construction updates and real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <a href="@NewJerseyDOT">@NewJerseyDOT</a> or on the <a href="NJDOT Facebook page">NJDOT Facebook page</a>.