

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Route 71 (Main Street) Bridge over Shark River Boroughs of Belmar & Avon-By-The-Sea Monmouth County

Public Information Center

Tuesday April 24, 2018, 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns, and cost. NJDOT will hold a **Public Information Center (PIC)** to provide local residents, officials, and the business community about the **conceptual alternatives being considered for the replacement of the Route 71 Bridge over Shark River**. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

The Meeting

The Public Information Center will be held at **the Avon by the Sea Marina – 2 Main Street, Avon by the Sea, NJ 07717, from 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm**. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the conceptual plans for the proposed project, ask questions and share information with NJDOT staff members. Property owners with rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate.

Project Background

The Route 71 Shark River Bridge was built in 1932 and consists of a double leaf steel bascule span and nine (9) continuous concrete encased riveted steel girder-floor beam approach spans. Route 71 (Main Street) in the project area runs generally south-north from Eighth Ave (MP 5.50) in the Borough of Belmar to Walling Place (MP 6.50) in the Borough of Avon-By-The-Sea. Route 71 classified as an Urban Minor Arterial with divided roadway from Poole Avenue to the northern end of project. The bridge carries a twelve (12) foot wide lane and a thirteen (13) foot wide shoulder in the northbound direction; and a twelve (12) foot wide inside lane and a thirteen (13) foot wide outside lane in the southbound direction. The bridge also carries a six (6) foot wide sidewalk on both sides.

Project Purpose

The New Jersey Department of Transportation is conducting a study for a major rehabilitation or replacement

of the existing Route 71 Bridge over Shark River to improve its structural deficiencies and maintain an important transportation connection for residents, business owners, and visitors to the Boroughs of Belmar and Avon-By-The-Sea. The bridge was rehabilitated in 1989 and is in overall fair condition. Due to its age, the bridge has structurally deteriorated over time and routine maintenance can no longer address the deficiencies. The movable bridge operating system was upgraded in 2011 and again in 2013 due to impacts from Superstorm Sandy.

Bridge Replacement Concept

A bridge replacement conceptual plan will be presented: Replacement in-kind with a new movable double-leaf bascule span bridge with prestressed concrete approach spans on the same alignment. The construction duration is anticipated to be 3 years and require non-seasonal (November through April) closures to all traffic. Vehicular traffic will be restricted to one lane in each direction during the summer seasons (May through October). One side of the bridge will open to bicyclists and pedestrians during the summer seasons.

Estimated Project Schedule

Start Preliminary Engineering: Fall 2019
Start Final Design: Fall 2021
Start Construction: Fall 2023

For further information contact:

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