

For Immediate Release: October 13, 2017 Contact: Steve Schapiro Daniel Triana 609-530-4280

Fish House Road ramp closure required for Route 7 Wittpenn Bridge Project Pavement and drainage work necessary as construction advances

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a long-term closure of the Fish House Road northbound ramp to Route 7 eastbound in South Kearny, as the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge replacement project advances in Hudson County.

Beginning at 10 p.m. tonight, Friday, October 13 and remaining in place until further notice, NJDOT's contractor, George Harms Construction Co, is scheduled to close the Fish House Road northbound ramp to Route 7 eastbound for resurfacing, curb and drainage work. Motorists are advised to expect delays and plan accordingly. The following detour will be in place.

Fish House Road northbound to Route 7 eastbound detour

- Motorists from Fish House Road wishing to access Route 7 eastbound will be directed to stay right and continue onto Route 7 westbound
- Bear left onto CR 508 westbound, Newark/Jersey City Turnpike by following signs for Harrison/Newark/I-280/NJ Turnpike
- Take first exit ramp on the right to Route 7 eastbound/Routes 1&9 Jersey City
- Continue onto Route 7 eastbound

In November 2011, NJDOT began construction on the first contract of the <u>\$480 million</u> project, to completely replace the existing structurally deficient Route 7 Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River with a new, wider vertical lift bridge. Construction of the new bridge is being accomplished in <u>five separate contracts</u>. The first two contracts that built the river piers, fender system and the east approach spans for the new vertical lift bridge have been completed. The third and fourth contracts of construction that will build the west approach spans, the Fish House Road Pump Station, advance utilities, embankment and the new vertical lift bridge span & towers are currently under construction. The new bridge is expected to be open to traffic in 2021.

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>@NJDOT info</u>.

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