

For Immediate Release: May 28, 2020 Contact: Steve Schapiro Brian Ahrens (609) 963-1975

Lower Notch Road and Valley Road ramps to close for a year as Route 3/Route 46 interchange improvement project advances Traffic to be shifted on Route 46 eastbound

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced long-term ramp closures and traffic shifts on Route 46 eastbound beginning Friday as the Route 3/Route 46 interchange improvement project advances in Clifton, Passaic County.

Beginning at 8 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, May 29, NJDOT's contractor, Union Paving & Construction Co., is scheduled to close the ramp from Lower Notch Road to Route 46 eastbound. The ramp from Route 46 eastbound to Valley Road northbound also will be closed. These closures are necessary to allow the contractor to begin working to replace bridge structures on Route 46. These closures are anticipated to remain in place for approximately one year. The following signed detours will be in place:

Lower Notch Road ramp to Route 46 eastbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on Lower Notch Road wishing to take the ramp to Route 46 eastbound will be directed to continue north on Lower Notch Road
- Turn left onto the ramp to Route 46 westbound
- Keep right and take the ramp to Browertown Road
- Turn right onto Browertown Road
- Turn right onto Rose Street
- Keep right and take the ramp to Route 46 eastbound

Route 46 eastbound to Valley Road northbound detour:

- Motorists wishing to take Route 46 eastbound to Valley Road northbound will be directed to continue on the ramp towards Route 3 eastbound/Lincoln Tunnel
- Take the ramp to Grove Street
- Turn left onto Grove Street
- Take the ramp to Route 3 westbound
- Continue onto Route 46 westbound
- Keep right and take the ramp towards Great Notch Road
- Keep right at the fork and turn right onto Great Notch Road
- Turn left onto Valley Road northbound

In addition to ramp closures, traffic shifts are needed on Route 46 eastbound to facilitate bridge and roadway construction. Beginning at 8 p.m. Friday, May 29, until 8 a.m. Saturday, May 30, and again each night through Monday morning, June 1, two lanes are scheduled to be closed on Route 46 eastbound between Browertown Road and Valley Road. One lane of traffic will be maintained overnight. During the day, one lane on Route 46 eastbound will be closed, with two lanes maintained.

By 5 a.m. Monday, June 1, Route 46 eastbound traffic will be shifted to the north side of the roadway between Browertown Road and Valley Road, creating a work zone for the contractor on the south side of the roadway. Three lanes of traffic will be maintained. This new traffic pattern is anticipated to remain in place for one year.

The \$189 million federally-funded Contract B portion of the <u>the Route 3</u>, <u>Route 46</u>, <u>Valley Road and</u> <u>Notch/Rifle Camp Road Interchange Improvements project</u> includes the realignment and widening of Route 46, as well as the construction of wider shoulders, acceleration, deceleration, and auxiliary lanes. At the Route 3/Route 46 interchange, a three lane Route 3 section will replace the existing two lane connections, and Route 46 will be realigned to better converge with Route 3. The new interchange includes four new bridge structures, a new signalized intersection, and a new multi-lane roundabout. This work is anticipated to be complete in 2024.

Contract A, which was completed in fall 2019, included the construction the new Great Notch Road Road, a new bridge over Route 46 from Great Notch Road to Clove Road, three signalized intersections, and two single-lane roundabouts parallel to Route 46 westbound to remove local traffic from the state highway.

Variable message signs are being utilized throughout the project limits to provide advance notification to motorists of all traffic pattern changes associated with the interchange improvements project. Throughout the project, NJDOT will provide information on upcoming road or ramp closures.

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> or on the <u>NJDOT Facebook page</u>.

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