# Route 206 over Branch of Stony Brook Bridge (Culvert) Replacement Princeton, Mercer County

## Public Information Center Tuesday, September 25, 2018 - 6 PM to 8 PM

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost, will hold a Public Information Center to inform local residents and businesses of the improvements and construction schedule in connection with the Route 206 over Branch of Stony Brook Bridge (Culvert) Replacement project in Princeton, Mercer County. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail or by email.

#### The Meeting

The Public Information Center will be held on **Tuesday**, **September 25**, **2018 at the Community Room**, **Princeton Municipal Building**, 400 Witherspoon Street, Princeton from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.

Please plan to attend at a time that is convenient for you. The meeting will provide an opportunity to view information on the plans and construction staging. NJDOT and the designer's staff will be on hand to answer any questions.

#### Background

The culvert, located along Route 206 at approximately MP 56.75 to 56.80, is an existing unreinforced concrete structure that dates back to 1915. Its opening measures 7'-3" x 5'-6" and it is 58 feet long. This project was initiated as a result of recent conditions found at the structure. The most recent inspection report in September 2016 revealed that the culvert is in poor condition ratings. Deficiencies that were noted include flaking and missing concrete on all four sides of the culvert, scour within and downstream of the culvert, and ponding on the roadway. In the interim, emergency work was completed in October 2017 to stabilize the roadway by installing temporary steel plates until a full replacement of the culvert could be completed.

#### The Project

This project will remove the temporary steel plates and provide for the permanent replacement of the existing culvert. The structure will be replaced in-kind to the extent possible (matching dimensions and material, but without an integral floor slab) and maintain the current waterway opening. In lieu of an integral floor slab, articulated concrete blocks and concrete armor units will be placed on the groundline to strengthen the channel bed and protect against erosion that could occur during a storm event. The channel protection will extend 48 feet beyond the downstream end of the culvert. The concrete block units will make use of an openblock design which will be filled with native material to create a more natural surface. A low flow channel will also be constructed within the channel protection to accommodate the passage of fish. The existing outside walls for the culvert on the downstream side are made of 6"x6" timbers, which will be replaced with 12" thick precast concrete walls. The walls on the upstream side are concrete and will also be reconstructed using precast concrete. The adjacent storm drains will not be impacted by this work.

The new culvert and foundations will be precast to limit the duration of lane closures. The project's intent is to allow the reconstruction of the culvert and the immediately adjacent pavement within a 5-day detour of Route 206, which is planned to begin on a Thursday night in November and conclude on the following Monday. The schedule will avoid impacts to the Princeton half marathon on November 4 and will restore traffic on Route 206 no later than the morning of November 21. Work will continue after November 21, but the two lanes of traffic will be restored to minimize disruptions to the public. Multiple crews will operate on a 24-hour per day basis to achieve this schedule. Prior to the beginning of construction, there will be some nighttime alternating lane closures that can be initiated at 9PM and extend to 6AM the next morning on weekdays, 7AM on Saturdays, and 8AM on Sundays.

A detour of Route 206 is required to replace the culvert with the least disturbance possible to the public. Northbound car traffic will be detoured from Route 206 northbound to Ewing Street to Mt Lucas Road to Herrontown Road and vice-versa in the southbound direction. Northbound truck traffic on I-295 southbound prior to Route 31, I-295 northbound prior to Route 206 and on Route 206 northbound at I-295 (Exit 69) will be directed to Route 31, to CR 518, and back onto Route 206. The same path (in reverse) will be used for southbound truck traffic.

The project includes pavement reconstruction/resurfacing of the roadway immediately adjacent to the culvert, drainage improvements just north of the culvert, replacement of existing guiderail to meet the current safety standards, landscaping in the work area to restore original conditions, and relocation of existing utilities (performed as advanced work).

#### Estimated Project Schedule:

Construction:	September 2018 to March 2019
Detour:	November 2018

For further information, please contact: Kimberly Nance, Regional Manager New Jersey Department of Transportation Office of Community and Constituent Relations P.O. Box 600 - Trenton, NJ 08625-0600 Phone: 609.530.2110; kimberly.nance@dot.nj.gov

### **Governor Phil Murphy**

### **Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti**



