

For Immediate Release: January 3, 2022 Contact: Jim Barry Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

I-295, I-76, and Route 42 nightly lane closures begin next week for Browning Road Bridge demolition Overnight lane closures necessary for approximately six weeks

(Trenton) - New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a series of overnight lane closures on I-295, I-76, and Route 42 for the demolition of the old Browning Road Bridge as part of the Direct Connect project in Bellmawr, Camden County.

NJDOT's contractor, South State, Inc., is scheduled to begin overnight lane closures on Monday, January 10 that will continue for approximately six weeks. The overnight lane closures will occur Monday through Friday nights, to allow for the demolition of the old Browning Road Bridge. The closures are scheduled to take place from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next day on I-295 southbound and I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound. Closures on I-295 northbound and Route 42 northbound/I-76 westbound will take place between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. the next day.

Typically, only two lanes of traffic in one direction will be closed at any one time with at least one lane open to traffic. To provide safety to workers and motorists, there is the possibility of temporary 15-minute traffic stoppages on some nights to accommodate the removal of large pipes that span additional lanes of traffic. In addition, there is the possibility for ramp closures and detours that have been used in the past, to provide additional safety.

The demolition of the Browning Road Bridge will begin with the removal of pipe and conduit under the bridge, as well as the installation of shielding under the bridge. This work is expected to take approximately two weeks. When this work is complete, the deck will be removed and then the steel girders. Once all of the bridge structure over I-295, I-76 and Route 42 is removed, demolition work will move to the east abutment and then to the west abutment. All of this work should be completed by spring 2022.

The work is part of the Direct Connect project that will provide a seamless route for I-295 motorists traveling through the interchange of I-295, I-76, and Route 42. To sign up for I-295 Direct Connect project updates go to <u>295DirectConnect.com</u> or text CONNECT to 1-844-844-3681.

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