

For Immediate Release:

January 21, 2022

Contact:

Jim Barry Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

I-295, Route 42, and I-76 ramp and lane closure schedule for the next week in Bellmawr

Closures necessary for Browning Road Bridge demolition

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a series of ramp and lane closures on I-295, Route 42, and I-76 over the next week as the demolition of the Browning Road Bridge continues in Bellmawr, Camden County.

Tonight, Friday, January 21 and next Friday, January 28

NJDOT's contractor, South State, Inc., is scheduled to close the I-295 northbound Exit 26, which becomes the left lane of I-76 westbound, from 9 p.m. tonight, Friday, January 21 until 8 a.m. Saturday, January 22, weather permitting. The two left lanes on I-76 westbound under the bridge also will be closed. At least two lanes will be maintained. The closure will allow underdeck removal and shielding work below the Browning Road Bridge. This closure and detour also will be in place next Friday, January 28 from 9 p.m. to 8 a.m. Saturday, January 29, weather permitting. The following detour will be in place:

I-295 northbound Exit 26 to I-76 westbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on I-295 northbound will be directed to continue on I-295 north to Exit 27
- Take the left Exit 27 ramp to I-76 westbound

Monday, January 24 and Tuesday, January 25

The right lane on Route 42 northbound is scheduled to be closed just past Exit 14/Leaf Avenue and Exit 1B to I-295 northbound is scheduled be closed and detoured on Monday, January 24 and Tuesday, January 25 between 9 p.m. and 5 a.m. the next day. The following detour will be in place both nights:

Route 42 northbound Exit 1B detour:

- Motorists traveling on Route 42 northbound wishing to take Exit 1B to I-295 northbound will be directed to continue on Route 42 northbound to I-76 westbound
- Take I-76 westbound to Exit 2/I-676 northbound
- Take I-676 northbound to Exit 1/Collings Avenue
- Turn right onto Collings Avenue
- Turn left onto I-676 southbound which becomes I-76 eastbound
- Take I-76 eastbound to Exit 1B/I-295 northbound

Wednesday, January 26

The I-295 southbound ramp to Route 42 southbound/I-295 southbound, also known as Al-Jo's Curve, and the two right lanes on I-295 southbound are scheduled to be closed after Exit 28/Route 168 from 9 p.m.

Wednesday, January 26 until 6 a.m. Thursday, January 27. All motorists traveling on I-295 southbound will be directed to stay left onto Exit 26. The following detour will be in place overnight:

<u>I-295 southbound to Route 42 southbound/I-295 southbound detour:</u>

- Motorists traveling on I-295 southbound to Route 42 southbound will be directed to exit left at Exit 26/I-76 westbound
- Take I-76 westbound to Exit 2/I-676 northbound
- Take I-676 northbound to Exit 1/Collings Avenue
- Turn right onto Collings Avenue
- Turn left onto I-676 southbound which becomes I-76 eastbound
- Take I-76 eastbound to Exit 1A/I-295 southbound

Thursday, January 27

I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound is scheduled to have the two left lanes closed on Thursday, January 27 from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. Friday, January 28. In addition, there is the possibility of temporary 15-minute traffic stoppages overnight on I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound to provide safety to workers and motorists during the removal of large pipes that span additional lanes of traffic.

Overnight lane closures continue for several weeks

In the coming weeks, there will be lanes closures Monday through Friday nights to allow for the Browning Road Bridge demolition. 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 from 9 p.m. until 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 bridge components 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 is beginning with the removal of pipe and conduit under the bridge, as well as installation of shielding under the bridge. When this work is complete, the deck will be removed and then the steel girders. Once all of the bridge structure over the 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.

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 295DirectConnect.com 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 www.511nj.org for real-time travel information, and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NewJerseyDOT or on the NJDOT Facebook page.

#