



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:
August 24, 2020

Contact: Steve Schapiro
609-963-1975

Route 495 westbound lane closures this week to shift traffic as bridge deck replacement advances to Stage 9 495 westbound to be split with middle work zone

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced that Route 495 westbound will have a series of overnight lane closures this week to prepare for a traffic shift to begin Stage 9 as the bridge deck replacement project advances in North Bergen.

Currently, Route 495 westbound has three lanes on the left side and a work zone on the right side of the bridge. During Stage 9, the three westbound lanes will be maintained with two lanes of traffic shifted onto the newly completed right lanes and a single lane split to the left. This will create a center work zone to replace the concrete deck and make steel repairs within the center lanes. The Route 1&9 southbound ramp will remain closed for reconstruction during this stage. Route 495 eastbound will not be affected and will maintain its current configuration.

To prepare for the Stage 9 traffic shift, which will occur on Friday night, the following closures will take place during the week:

Tuesday, August 25

Beginning at 10 p.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, August 25 until 6 a.m. the next day, NJDOT's contractor, IEW Construction Group, is scheduled to close the two right lanes on Route 495 westbound. At least one lane will be maintained in the westbound direction.

Wednesday, August 26 and Thursday, August 27

From 10 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next day, on both Wednesday, August 26 and Thursday, August 27, the two left lanes of Route 495 westbound are scheduled to be closed. At least one lane will be maintained in the westbound direction.

Friday, August 28

Beginning at 9 p.m. Friday, August 28 until 8 a.m. Saturday, August 29, NJDOT's contractor, IEW Construction Group, is scheduled to close the two lanes on Route 495 westbound and the 31st Street ramp from JFK Boulevard to Paterson Plank Road. There also will be short-term traffic stoppages during the overnight work hours. These short closures will allow for the restriping of the roadway and relocation of the temporary concrete barriers to implement the traffic shift. At least one lane will be maintained in the westbound direction.

At 11 p.m., the two lanes from Route 495 westbound to the New Jersey Turnpike will be closed and detoured. The following detour will be in place:

Route 495 westbound ramp to the New Jersey Turnpike detour:

- Motorists on Route 495 westbound will be directed onto Route 3 westbound
- Stay in the right lane toward Secaucus, and take the Secaucus exit onto the Paterson Plank Road overpass
- Travel over Route 3 and make the first right for Route 3 eastbound
- Stay right and take the exit for the NJ Turnpike

31st Street ramp from Kennedy Boulevard to Route 1&9 north detour:

The 31st Street ramp from Kennedy Boulevard also will be closed and detoured between 9 p.m. Friday, August 24 until 8 a.m. the next morning. The following detour will be in place:

- Motorists wishing to utilize the 31st Street ramp to Route 1&9 north or Paterson Plank Road will be directed to take Kennedy Boulevard to 32nd Street
- Turn left onto 32nd Street
- Turn left onto Union Turnpike
- Turn right onto Route 1&9 north or
- Stay straight and Union Turnpike becomes Paterson Plank Road

Stage 9 Traffic Shift

The following Stage 9 configuration will be in place by Saturday morning, August 29 and is expected to remain through the fall (see attached [maps](#)):

- The Right Lane will be for Route 3 westbound and local traffic only
- The Center Lane will be for both New Jersey Turnpike and Route 3 westbound
- The Left Lane will be a single-lane cattle chute across Route 495 and **will only be able to access the New Jersey Turnpike**. However, when the Express Bus Lane (XBL) resumes in the fall, this lane will again be closed during morning weekday peak hours to westbound traffic and will be utilized for eastbound XBL buses only between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m..

Route 495 westbound ramp to Route 1&9

The ramps from Route 495 westbound to Route 1&9 will remain closed during this Stage while it is being reconstructed. The following detours will be in place:

Route 495 westbound ramp to Route 1&9 southbound detour:

- Traffic wishing to take the ramp to Route 1&9 south will be directed to stay right for Route 3 westbound Local toward Secaucus
- Take the Secaucus exit to Paterson Plank Road
- Cross over Route 3 and take the ramp to Route 3 eastbound
- Stay left and follow signs to Route 1&9 south

Route 495 westbound ramp to Route 1&9 northbound detour:

- Traffic wishing to take the ramp to Route 1&9 north will be directed to stay right for Route 3 westbound Local toward Secaucus
- Take the North Bergen exit to Paterson Plank Road
- Turn left onto Route 1&9 north

Project Overview

The \$90.3 million state-funded project to rehabilitate the nine-span Route 495 viaduct includes repairs and reconstruction of the bridge deck, replacement and strengthening of deteriorated structural steel, and the repair and painting of the substructure. Construction began in September 2017 with work under the bridge and along the Paterson Plank Road/Union Turnpike corridor. The second phase of work began on the bridge in August 2018 with the closure of a single lane in each direction on Route 495. Traffic impacts associated with the second phase of construction on Route 495 are expected to last for about two and a half years while the entire bridge deck is replaced. Construction will be accomplished in stages to minimize the impact to motorists.

Community Outreach

NJDOT created a project-specific website – www.RestoreNJ495.com – which contains a wealth of information about the Route 495 Bridge rehabilitation, and will be updated with relevant new information as work progresses. The Department is carefully coordinating the Route 495 Bridge rehabilitation project with other regional transportation infrastructure projects to minimize traffic congestion.

The Department has a project hotline telephone number, 201.408.8495, and email, DOTOutreachRT495@dot.nj.gov. Anyone who has questions, concerns, or suggestions is encouraged to contact the Project Outreach Team as work progresses.

NJDOT will be using Variable Message Signs to provide advance notification to motorists of traffic pattern changes associated with the work. The precise timing of the work is subject to change due to weather or other factors.

Follow the project on Twitter [@RestoreNJ495](https://twitter.com/RestoreNJ495) and get real-time information on traffic conditions at www.511nj.org, where a widget will enable you to cut through all the other traffic information and focus in on the Route 495 area. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NJDOT_info](https://twitter.com/NJDOT_info) and our [Facebook page](#).

#