



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:
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Route 71/Main Street overnight traffic shift required for final road striping in Neptune and Asbury Park **One lane of traffic will be maintained in each direction at all times**

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced Route 71/Main Street traffic will be shifted overnight between Main Avenue, Neptune and First Avenue, Asbury Park, as the safety improvements and pavement reconstruction project nears completion in Monmouth County.

Beginning at 7 p.m. tonight, Friday, April 9, until 11 a.m. Saturday, April 10, NJDOT's contractor, New Prince Concrete, will restripe the currently closed Route 71/Main Street southbound lanes between Main Avenue, Neptune and First Avenue, Asbury Park. Upon completion, the northbound lanes will be shifted onto the southbound side allowing the northbound lanes to be restriped. By Saturday morning, Route 71/Main Street will be reopened in its final configuration in both directions.

Access to on-street parking and local businesses will be restricted tonight and tomorrow morning until the completion of the striping on Route 71/Main Street in the work zone.

As the project nears completion, daily intermittent lane closures and shoulder closures will be required for traffic signal work and final paving. Notification will be provided in advance of traffic pattern changes.

The project will improve safety and operational performance on Route 71/Main Street along a two-mile stretch between Cedar Avenue in Allenhurst and the Main Avenue/Bond Street intersection in Asbury Park. Project improvements include the resurfacing of Route 71/Main Street, upgrading 29 intersections with ADA compliant ramps, and several pedestrian upgrades including curb and sidewalk replacement. Additional improvements will include bike lanes, 17 new traffic signals, replacing of steel utility poles with standard wooden poles, landscape restoration, utility relocation, and improved lighting to enhance the safety of the road for the thousands of motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists using the road each day. Construction began in March 2018 and was designed to proceed in stages with work suspended during the busy summer season. The project is expected to be completed by summer.

Road Diet

A "road diet" is being implemented in Asbury Park as part of the safety and operational improvements plan. The new striping plan will reduce the number of travel lanes to one in

each direction with a center turn lane. Currently, Route 71/Main Street does not include dedicated left-turn lanes, which can lead to congestion, difficulty in making left turns, and a greater risk for crashes.

The presence of the new center turn lane frees up traffic to operate more efficiently, and serves as a traffic calming measure to reduce speeds through a busy and vibrant business district with heavy pedestrian traffic. NJDOT has performed similar adjustments to [a stretch of Route 45 in Woodbury](#) and along Route 9 in Lakewood to help improve traffic flow and safety.

The road diet has already been completed on Route 71/Main Street between Asbury Avenue and 7th Avenue. The restriping taking place tonight will complete the road diet between Main Avenue, Neptune and First Avenue, Asbury Park.

New gas mainlines and facilities were installed along Route 71/Main Street, and NJDOT contractors installed a new sewer system on behalf of the Asbury Park Sewer Authority.

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](https://twitter.com/NewJerseyDOT) or on the [NJDOT Facebook page](#).

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