

For Immediate Release: September 23, 2016 609-530-4280 **Contact:** Steve Schapiro Kevin Israel Dan Triana

Baldwin Avenue Bridge over Route 139 to close for reconstruction in Jersey City as Pulaski Contract 2 advances Traffic to be detoured using new Palisades Avenue Bridge

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the closure of the Baldwin Avenue Bridge over Route 139 in Jersey City as the Pulaski Skyway Contract 2 advances.

Beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, September 26 through early next year, NJDOT's contractor, Schiavone Construction, will close Baldwin Avenue between Newark Avenue and Beacon Avenue for the demolition and complete replacement of the Baldwin Avenue Bridge over Route 139. The project also includes the installation of new traffic signals at both intersections of Route 139 upper roadway and Baldwin Avenue.

Access to local residents and businesses will be maintained between Beacon Avenue and Route 139 upper level and Newark Avenue and Route 139 upper level. A signed detour for through traffic will direct motorists and pedestrians to the newly reconstructed Palisade Avenue Bridge. Local police will be on site to assist with the detour.

The following detours will be in place:

- Motorists traveling southbound on Baldwin Avenue will be directed to turn left onto Beacon Avenue then right onto Palisade Avenue southbound and then right on Newark Avenue westbound to Baldwin Avenue.
- Motorists traveling northbound on Baldwin Avenue will be directed to turn right onto Newark Avenue eastbound and the left onto Palisade Avenue northbound and the left onto Beacon Avenue westbound to Baldwin Avenue.

This work is part of the <u>\$104 million Pulaski Contract 2</u>, which will repair and improve the upper and lower levels of Route 139. Route 139 links the eastern end of the Pulaski Skyway to the Jersey City waterfront. During this contract, the deck on Route 139 upper level eastbound will be replaced, along with five cross street bridges from Palisade Avenue to Kennedy Boulevard.

Contract 2 is part of the \$1 billion Pulaski Skyway rehabilitation project, which is being advanced through 10 separate construction contracts into the year 2020. The massive improvement project will extend the life of the Skyway by 75 years.

NJDOT created a project-specific website - <u>www.pulaskiskyway.com</u> - which contains a wealth of information about the Skyway and the project, and will be updated with relevant new information as work progresses. The Department is carefully coordinating the Pulaski Skyway project with other regional transportation infrastructure projects to minimize traffic congestion.

The Department has a project hotline telephone number, 973-776-7400, and email, <u>Pulaski.Skyway@dot.nj.gov</u>. 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. Follow us on Twitter <u>@Skywayrehab</u> and visit <u>www.511nj.org</u> for real-time travel advisories.

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