



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

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Route 7 westbound overnight closure on Friday night to implement traffic shift Overnight detour necessary as bridge replacement work advances

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced the overnight closure tonight of Route 7 westbound as the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge replacement project advances between Kearny and Jersey City in Hudson County.

Beginning at 10 p.m., tonight, Friday, February 7 until 8 a.m. tomorrow, February 8, NJDOT's contractor George Harms Construction Co., is scheduled to fully close Route 7 westbound in Jersey City and detour motorists onto Route 1&9 Truck southbound. This closure will allow the contractor to install construction barriers, temporary pavement and restripe the roadway to shift the right lane on Route 7 westbound in Kearny. **Route 7 eastbound will remain open.**

Once in place, the new traffic shift will direct motorists in the right lane of Route 7 westbound onto the ramp to Fish House Road. Traffic on this ramp will have the opportunity to continue to Fishhouse Road by staying to the right or take the immediate left onto a new ramp back to Route 7 westbound (which allows access to the Owens Corning facility). The new configuration is necessary to begin construction on the foundation of the flyover ramps that will connect to the new bridge. The left lane on Route 7 westbound will remain open and is not affected. This configuration will be in place until spring 2021.

Motorists are advised to expect delays and plan accordingly.

During tonight's Route 7 westbound closure, the following overnight detour will be in place:

Routes 1&9 Truck southbound/Route 139 westbound to Route 7 westbound detour (10 p.m. Friday, February 7 to 8 a.m. Saturday, February 8)

- Motorists on Routes 1&9 Truck southbound and Route 139 westbound wishing to continue onto Route 7 westbound over to the Wittpenn Bridge will be directed to stay on Routes 1&9 Truck southbound
- Following detour signs on Routes 1&9 Truck southbound, motorists will bear right (at the Route 440/Communipaw Avenue intersection) and go over the Hackensack River Bridge
- After the bridge, continue on Routes 1&9 Truck southbound
- Make the right to merge onto Central Avenue
- Continue on Central Avenue and make a right onto Pennsylvania Avenue

- Pennsylvania Avenue becomes Fish House Road
- Continue on Fish House Road onto the ramp for Route 7 westbound

The Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River project is completely replacing the existing bridge, which is in poor condition, with a new, wider vertical lift bridge. Construction of the new bridge is being accomplished in [five separate contracts](#). The first two contracts that built the river piers, fender system and the east approach spans for the new vertical lift bridge have been completed. The third and fourth contracts of construction that will build the west approach spans, the Fish House Road Pump Station, advance utilities, embankment and the new vertical lift bridge span & towers are currently under construction. The new bridge is expected to be open to traffic in 2022.

Permanent and 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 [@NJDOT_info](https://twitter.com/NJDOT_info) or on the [NJDOT Facebook page](#).

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