



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

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Route 71 northbound overnight lane closure and detour required to begin new traffic pattern in Asbury Park Traffic shift will maintain one lane of traffic in each direction

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced an overnight lane closure and detour on Route 71/Main Street in Asbury Park between 2nd Avenue and Corlies Avenue/Route 33 as the safety improvements and pavement reconstruction project restarts after a summer hiatus in Monmouth County.

Beginning 8 p.m., Friday, September 18, until 8 a.m. the next day, NJDOT's contractor, New Prince Concrete, will close and detour Route 71/Main Street between 2nd Avenue and Corlies Avenue/Route 33 to create a new traffic pattern.

When Route 71/Main Street reopens on Saturday morning, the northbound side of the road will be closed between Main Avenue in Ocean Grove and Asbury Avenue in Asbury Park with one lane of traffic shifted onto the existing southbound roadway. Two-way traffic with one lane in each direction will be maintained on the southbound side of the roadway during this stage of construction. The following detours will be in place Friday night:

Route 71/Main Street southbound detour:

- Motorists traveling south on Route 71/Main Street will be directed to turn right onto 2nd Avenue
- Turn left onto Memorial Drive
- Turn left on Corlies Avenue
- Turn right onto Route 71/South Main Street

Route 71/Main Street northbound detour:

- Motorists traveling north on Route 71/South Main Street will be directed to turn left Corlies Avenue/Route 33
- Turn right onto Memorial Drive
- Turn right onto 2nd Avenue
- Turn left onto Route 71/Main Street

The Route 71 pavement resurfacing and safety improvements project, which started construction in March 2018 and is suspended during the busy summer seasons, is resuming this fall with construction in Asbury Park.

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The project will improve safety and operational performance on the roadway 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.

Road Diet

As part of the safety and operational improvements, a “road diet” is being implemented in Asbury Park. 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 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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