

For Immediate Release:

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Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge to be closed this weekend Closure necessary for painting and lift span adjustments

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced a full closure of the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge between Jersey City and Kearny for painting and to adjust lift span machinery this weekend.

Beginning at 6 a.m. tomorrow, Saturday, July 9 until 11 p.m. Sunday, July 10, NJDOT's contractors, CCA Construction, is scheduled to close and detour Route 7 in both directions before the Wittpenn Bridge to paint sections of the bridge structure and make adjustments to the lift span machinery on the new bridge. The following detours will be in place:

Route 7 eastbound detour:

- Route 7 eastbound traffic will be directed to take the exit to Fish House Road southbound
- Fish House Road becomes Pennsylvania Avenue
- Turn left onto Central Avenue
- Take the ramp to Route 1&9 Truck north
- Bear left at the traffic signal at Communipaw Avenue to stay on Route 1&9 Truck
- Follow Route 1&9 Truck to Route 1&9

Route 1&9 southbound to Route 7 westbound detour:

- Route 1&9 southbound traffic wishing to take Route 7 westbound over the Wittpenn Bridge will be directed to take the exit for Route 1&9 Truck southbound (also known as Charlotte Circle)
- Follow Route 1&9 Truck southbound to Communipaw Avenue were it bears right to the Hackensack River Bridge.
- Follow Route 1&9 Truck southbound across the Hackensack River Bridge
- Turn right onto Central Avenue north
- Turn right onto Pennsylvania Avenue, which becomes Fish House Road
- Follow Fish House Road to Route 7 westbound

About the Project

The Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River project is replacing the existing bridge with a new, wider vertical lift bridge. The new bridge doubles the vertical clearance over Hackensack River from 35-feet to 70-feet, resulting in fewer openings and less congestion.

Construction of the new bridge is being accomplished in <u>five separate contracts</u>. The first three contracts have been completed and included advanced utility work, and building the Fish House Road Pump Station, roadway embankments, river piers, fender system, and a portion of the approach spans for the new vertical lift bridge. The fourth and fifth contracts are currently under construction and will complete the approach spans, the Fish House Road flyover ramps, new roadways, and the new vertical lift bridge span and towers.

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 or on the NJDOT Facebook page.

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