

For Immediate Release: October 13, 2022 Contact: Jim Barry Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

New Route 7 eastbound ramp to Newark Avenue and Route 1&9 Truck to open this weekend in Jersey City New ramp will alleviate congestion on local roads

(Trenton) – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced the Route 7 eastbound ramp to Newark Avenue and Route 1&9 Truck in Jersey City will open this weekend.

The new ramp is scheduled to be opened in the early morning on Saturday, October 15 and will restore access from the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge eastbound to Newark Avenue and Route 1&9 Truck in Jersey City. Traffic on the Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge will not be affected as the ramp is being opened. There will be lane closures and periodic short duration traffic stops Friday night into Saturday morning on Route 1&9 Truck between Route 7 and Broadway for final striping and to allow for traffic signals adjustment at the Newark Avenue Intersection.

This ramp replaces a ramp from the old Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge that was closed in October 2021 when the new Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge opened to traffic. The new ramp will help alleviate congestion on local roads as traffic will have direct access to Route 1&9 Truck and will no longer need to use St. Paul's Avenue.

About the Project

The Route 7/Wittpenn Bridge over the Hackensack River project replaced 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 advance 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 nearing completion.

Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website <u>www.511nj.org</u> for real-time travel information, and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter <u>@NewJerseyDOT</u> or on the <u>NJDOT</u> <u>Facebook page</u>.

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