

For Immediate Release: October 20, 2022 **Contact:**

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Route 3 westbound ramp closures tonight as Bridge over Conrail and NYS&W railroad project advances in North Bergen Ramp detours necessary for curb work and paving

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced ramp closures on Route 3 westbound tonight as the Route 3 Bridge over Conrail; New York, Susquehanna and Western Railway (NYS&W) replacement project advances in North Bergen, Hudson County.

Beginning at 9 p.m. tonight, Thursday, October 20 until 5 a.m. tomorrow, Friday, October 21, NJDOT's contractor, Ritacco Construction Inc., is scheduled to close the Route 3 westbound ramps to and from the NJ TRANSIT Park & Ride Lot and to Route 495 eastbound/Lincoln Tunnel. The closures are necessary for curb work and paving. All lanes on Route 3 westbound will remain open. The following detours will be in place:

Route 3 westbound to Route 495 eastbound detour:

- Motorists wishing to take the Route 3 westbound ramp to Route 495 eastbound/Lincoln Tunnel will be directed to continue on Route 3 westbound
- Take the exit for Meadowlands Parkway
- Turn left onto Meadowlands Parkway
- Go under Route 3
- Turn left to take the ramp onto Route 3 eastbound to Route 495 eastbound

Route 3 westbound to NJ TRANSIT Park & Ride Lot detour:

- Motorists wishing to take the Route 3 westbound ramp to the NJ TRANSIT Park & Ride Lot will be directed to continue on Route 3 westbound
- Take the exit for Meadowlands Parkway
- Turn left onto Meadowlands Parkway
- Go under Route 3
- Turn left to take the ramp onto Route 3 eastbound
- Stay right and take the exit for North Bergen/Kennedy Boulevard/New Jersey Turnpike/I-95 North
- Stay right and take the North Bergen exit to Paterson Plank Road
- Take Paterson Plank Road and turn right at West Side Avenue into the Park & Ride lot

NJ TRANSIT Park & Ride Lot to Route 3 westbound detour:

- Motorists wishing to take the ramp from the NJ TRANSIT Park & Ride Lot to Route 3 westbound will be directed to use the Paterson Plank Road exit
- Turn left onto Paterson Plank Road
- Stay right to take the ramp to Route 3 westbound

The \$24.8 million project is federally funded through a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant. It will replace the bridge located between the Route 495 Bridge over Route 3 on the west and Route 1&9/Tonnele Avenue on the east, near the south entrance to the NJ TRANSIT North Bergen Park & Ride lot. The new, wider bridge will improve safety by providing standard lane and shoulder widths and improved sight distance. The sidewalk will be extended to connect the existing sidewalk on Route 1&9/Tonnele Avenue to the North Bergen Park and Ride.

In addition, the new Route 3 Bridge design eliminates the piers adjacent to the railroad tracks. This will improve rail service by allowing freight trains to transport higher and wider loads, as well as travel at higher speeds. It also will create increased spacing between the tracks, which is required to provide shared passenger and freight service. This expanded passenger and freight service will provide significant regional benefits to commuters and the freight industry from Passaic, Bergen, and Hudson counties.

The project is being constructed in five stages. The bridge remains open in both directions during construction and pedestrian traffic is being maintained as well. The project is expected to be completed by summer 2023.

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 <u>http://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 Facebook page</u>.

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