

For Immediate Release:

November 3, 2023

Contact: Jim Barry

Elizabeth Rose Galamba

609-963-1975

Newark Light Rail closed this weekend as I-280 bridge deck replacement project advances in Newark Closure necessary to install shielding underneath I-280

(Trenton) – The NJ TRANSIT Newark Light Rail will be closed this weekend between Grove Street and Newark Penn Station in Newark, Essex County. The closure is necessary to install shielding underneath I-280 above the Orange Street Light Rail Station. This work is being coordinated with other NJ TRANSIT construction. An alternate bus service will operate for Light Rail customers. For more information, please see NJ TRANSIT's service advisory.

From 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday, November 4 and again, on Sunday, November 5, at the same time, NJDOT's contractor, Sanzari, Inc., is scheduled to work on the NJ TRANSIT Light Rail tracks at the Orange Street Light Rail Station to install shielding underneath I-280 westbound. I-280 and Orange Street will remain open to traffic.

The \$31.7 million federally-funded project will replace the I-280 westbound bridge decks on the 10-span viaduct that goes over the NJ TRANSIT tracks, Orange Street and 1st Street in Newark, Essex County. The project includes substructure repairs, replacing bearings, repairing structural steel, and repainting portions of the bridge. In addition, the existing retaining wall on the ramp from 1st Street to I-280 westbound will be replaced to allow for three through lanes on I-280 westbound beyond the bridge. Two new overhead sign structures also will be installed over I-280. The project was designed to advance in stages to minimize impact on motorists. Construction is expected to be completed by fall 2025.

Variable Message Signs will provide advance notification to motorists of 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 $\underline{\text{www.511nj.org}}$ for real-time travel information and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter $\underline{\text{@NewJerseyDOT}}$ and on the NJDOT Facebook page.