

For Immediate Release:

May 17, 2024

Contact: Jim Barry

Steve Schapiro 609-963-1975

Central Avenue northbound and Pennsylvania Avenue eastbound to be closed in South Kearny, Hudson County Traffic to be detoured for approximately a year

(Trenton) – Central Avenue/CR 659 northbound and Pennsylvania Avenue eastbound are scheduled to be closed and detoured beginning tonight for approximately a year as the Portway, Fish House Road/Pennsylvania Avenue project advances in South Kearny, Hudson County.

Beginning at 8 p.m. tonight, Friday, May 17, Central Avenue/CR 659 northbound and Pennsylvania Avenue eastbound over the railroad tracks are scheduled to be closed and detoured beginning at Central Avenue and 3rd Street. In addition, Pennsylvania Avenue West at the intersection of Central Avenue will be closed. There will be no direct access to Fishhouse Road northbound towards Route 7 from either Central Avenue or Pennsylvania Avenue West.

Full Access will be maintained for Fish House Road southbound and Pennsylvania Avenue East westbound traffic and for traffic going to the CSX Intermodal Terminal from the north. Access to Pennsylvania West will only be maintained from Jacobus Avenue. The closures are necessary for deep pile supported utility relocations, sewer and gas main replacement, drainage improvements, and railroad crossing improvements at the intersection of Central Avenue/CR 659 and Pennsylvania Avenue. This configuration is expected to be in place for approximately a year. The following detours will be in place:

Central Avenue northbound Detour:

- Motorists on Central Avenue/CR 659 northbound will be directed to turn left on 3rd Street
- Turn left onto Jacobus Avenue
- Turn left onto 2nd Street
- Turn right onto Central Avenue southbound
- Take the ramp to Route 1&9 Truck northbound
- Turn left at the traffic signal to stay on Route 1&9 Truck northbound
- Take the ramp to Route 7 westbound
- Cross the Wittpenn Bridge
- · Stay right to take the Fish House Road exit

The \$82.4 million Portway, Fish House Road/Pennsylvania Avenue (CR 659) project will realign the roadway and reconfigure the intersection of Central Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue. Currently, Central Avenue in South Kearny and Fish House Road are two lanes in each direction. Pennsylvania Avenue, which connects the two roads, is one lane in each direction with a "T" intersection with Central Avenue at a Railroad grade crossing. The project will create a through-curve with two lanes in each direction for the entire length.

Left turns from Central Avenue northbound to Pennsylvania Avenue westbound will be eliminated with traffic using local streets. A new traffic signal will be installed at 3rd Street and Central Avenue. The at-grade railroad crossing will be reconstructed and shifted approximately 50 feet east of the existing location. The road also will be elevated up to three feet, so it is above the 10-year tidal surge elevation. The project is expected to be completed by fall 2028.

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 X (Twitter) @NewJerseyDOT or on the NJDOT Facebook page.

#