

**New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Rt. 72 over Rt. 9, Bridge Deck Replacement  
Stafford Township, Ocean County  
Public Information Center  
Tuesday, April 16, 2013 4 - 7 PM**

**Stafford Township Municipal Building, 260 East Bay Avenue, Manahawkin**

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The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost, will hold a Public Information Center to inform local residents and businesses of the staging and improvements in connection with the **Rt. 72 over Rt. 9 Bridge Deck Replacement Project in Stafford Township, Ocean County.** You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail or by e-mail.

#### **The Meeting**

The Public Information Center will be held at the **Stafford Township Municipal Building, 260 East Bay Ave, Manahawkin on Tuesday, April 16, 2013 from 4 – 7 pm.** Please plan to attend the meeting at a time that is convenient for you. You will have an opportunity to examine design plans, ask questions and discuss issues with representatives from NJDOT. Property owners of rental units are advised that tenants are invited and encouraged to participate.

#### **Background**

The concrete decks on both the Rt. 72 structures over Rt. 9 are in poor condition and must be replaced. The NJDOT has coordinated the planning and timing of this project with Stafford Township Officials. The major construction that requires long-term lane and ramp closures is scheduled to occur during non-summer months. Permanent lane reductions are prohibited along Rt. 72 westbound throughout the Atlantic Hurricane Season (June 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>).

#### **The Proposed Project**

The NJDOT is proposing to replace, one at a time, the concrete decks of the eastbound and westbound bridges carrying Rt. 72 over Rt. 9. This work will be accomplished through staged construction that includes: (1) Closing the bridge being worked on and diverting its traffic via temporary diversionary roads crossing the median; (2) Reducing traffic along one direction of Rt. 72 from two lanes to one lane through the work area; (3) Closing and detouring designated ramps at the Rt. 9/Rt. 72 Interchange; and, (4) Constructing temporary improvements, including a traffic signal, at the intersection of Rt. 9/Rt. 72 eastbound ramps. The project also includes reconstructing shoulders along Rt. 72 as necessary to accommodate diverted traffic, constructing concrete slabs along Rt. 72 approaching the bridges, minor repairs to the bridges, and sandblasting/painting the structural steel. These improvements will be coordinated with the NJDOT's nearby Rt. 72 over Manahawkin Bay Bridge Project.

#### **Environmental**

The NJDOT obtained a Flood Hazard Area Permit from the NJDEP that grants permission to perform the designated construction required within the riparian zone of Manahawkin Mill Creek. Furthermore, the NJDOT has certified that the project, with its limited impacts, is in conformance with the NJDEP Storm Water Management Rules and the NJDEP Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Standards. No environmental constraints were identified for the proposed improvement. Every effort will be made to avoid or minimize impacts to any resources that should be identified within the project limits.

#### **Estimated Schedule**

Construction is estimated to start summer 2013.

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#### **For further information, please contact:**

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