

For Immediate Release:

August 17, 2017 609-530-4280 Contact:

Steve Schapiro

Daniel Triana

Traffic shift for Pulaski Skyway on-ramps begin this weekend Full closure required this weekend to set up new configuration

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a new traffic pattern for the on-ramps approaching the Pulaski Skyway that will be in place for several months to complete the deck replacement in the area of the entrance ramp from Tonnele Circle as the rehabilitation of the historic 85-year-old bridge advances.

The new traffic pattern will be is as follows (see attached <u>map</u>):

- Route 139 Lower Roadway westbound has two lanes approaching the Skyway
- The right lane will become the exit ramp to I-280/Route 7 and Route 1&9 Truck southbound
- The left lane will continue onto the Skyway with only one lane maintained southbound on the Skyway beginning at exit ramp to I-280/Route 7 and Route 1&9 Truck southbound
- The entrance ramp from the Tonnele Circle to the Skyway southbound will remain open, but will be shifted and narrowed to become its own dedicated lane. Therefore, traffic entering the southbound flow of traffic on the Skyway from this ramp will no longer need to merge with the mainline traffic.
- From the point where traffic from the ramp from Tonnele Circle enters the Skyway southbound two lanes of traffic will be maintained across the remaining length of the Skyway.

Full Closure This Weekend

In order to establish the new pattern, the Skyway will be closed in both directions this weekend.

To avoid delays, NJDOT is encouraging motorists to use the NJ Turnpike-Hudson County Extension to all destinations west and south, including I-78 and Route 1&9 southbound.

Beginning at 8 p.m. Saturday, August 19 until 10 a.m. Sunday, August 20, NJDOT's contractor, CCA Civil Inc.-Daidone Joint Venture, is scheduled to close the Pulaski Skyway southbound at the off ramp to I-280/Route 7 and Route 1&9 southbound to install deck panels and related concrete work. The ramp from Tonnele Circle to the Skyway also will be closed with traffic detoured to Route 1&9 Truck south.

Traffic on Route 1&9 south heading toward Tonnele Circle is encouraged to stay right and use the ramp to Route 1&9 Truck.

Heavy congestion and delays are expected in Tonnele Circle. The work is being coordinated with the Pulaski Skyway Contract 2 project that is rehabilitating Route 139 upper and lower levels.

The following detours will be in place during the full closure this weekend:

Southbound Traffic (toward Newark):

Leaving the Holland Tunnel, motorists will have the following options:

- Stay to the far right and take the NJ Turnpike-Hudson County Extension to all destinations west and south, including I-78 *This is the recommended option*.
- Stay to the left and follow signs for Route 139 West, then stay left to Route 1&9 Truck southbound towards Newark, Route 7 and I-280.

Local Traffic for Jersey City:

• Stay to the middle to take Route 139 Upper Roadway and follow signs to Kennedy Boulevard/Jersey City, to best access many local Jersey City locations and other points north (Secaucus).

Northbound Traffic (toward Jersey City):

Northbound traffic will continue to utilize the same Skyway alternate routes that have been in effect since the northbound lanes were closed:

- NJ Turnpike-Hudson County Extension
- Route 1&9 Truck northbound
- Communipaw Avenue to access local Jersey City Locations.

NJDOT created a project-specific website - www.pulaskiskyway.com - which contains a wealth of information about the Skyway and the project, and will be updated with relevant new information as work progresses. The Department is carefully coordinating the Pulaski Skyway project with other regional transportation infrastructure projects to minimize traffic congestion.

The Department has a project hotline telephone number, 973-776-7400, and email, Pulaski.Skyway@dot.nj.gov. Anyone who has questions, concerns, or suggestions is encouraged to contact the Project Outreach Team as work progresses.

NJDOT will be using Variable Message Signs to provide advance notification to motorists of traffic pattern changes associated with the work. Follow us on Twitter @Skywayrehab and visit www.511nj.org for travel advisories.

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