

For Immediate Release:

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I-78 westbound lane closures this week as Bridge over Raritan River project advances in Bedminster, Somerset County Two lanes to be shifted onto temporary bridge Wednesday night

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced lane closures tonight and tomorrow night on I-78 westbound as the Bridge over the North Branch of the Raritan River replacement project advances in Bedminster, Somerset County.

Beginning at 8 p.m., tonight, Tuesday, February 1, until 6 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, February 2, NJDOT's contractor, Ferreira Construction Co., is scheduled to close the left lane on I-78 after the merge with traffic from I-287. The lane closure is necessary for construction barrier work. At least two lanes will be maintained tonight.

Beginning at 8 p.m., tomorrow, Wednesday, February 2, the right lane is scheduled to be closed on I-78 westbound. At 11 p.m. until 6 a.m. Thursday, February 3, the center lane also will be closed in order to restripe the road and install construction barrier to shift traffic onto a temporary bridge in the median. At least one lane will be maintained overnight.

By 6 a.m. Thursday, February 3, two lanes of I-78 westbound will be shifted onto the temporary bridge and one lane of traffic will be maintained on the existing Bridge over the North Branch of the Raritan River. The two lanes on the temporary bridge will be 11-feet wide, and trucks will be directed to use the right lane over the existing bridge. During this stage, the right side of the bridge will be demolished and replaced. This stage is expected to last until summer.

The \$6.9 million federally-funded project will replace the existing bridge carrying I-78 westbound over the North Branch of the Raritan River, which is in poor condition. Construction will take place in multiple stages to maintain three lanes in each direction on I-78 during construction. A temporary bridge will be built to carry two lanes of traffic with one lane maintained on the existing bridge during construction. The project is anticipated to be complete in 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 www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NewJerseyDOT and our Facebook page.