

For Immediate Release:

February 15, 2022

Contact:

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I-295 southbound ramp to I-295 and Route 42 and I-76 eastbound lane closed tonight in Bellmawr, Camden County I-295 northbound Exit 26 to be closed on Friday night

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced a series of ramp and lane closures on I-295 and I-76 this week as the Browning Road Bridge demolition continues in Bellmawr, Camden County.

Tonight, Tuesday, February 15

NJDOT's contractor, South State, Inc., is scheduled to close the I-295 southbound ramp to Route 42 southbound/I-295 southbound, also known as Al-Jo's Curve, from 9 p.m. tonight, Tuesday, February 15 until 6 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, February 16. The two right lanes on I-295 southbound will also be closed after Exit 28/Route 168. All motorists traveling on I-295 southbound will be directed to stay left onto Exit 26. The following detour will be in place overnight:

I-295 southbound to Route 42 southbound/I-295 southbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on I-295 southbound to Route 42 southbound will be directed to exit left at Exit 26/I-76 westbound
- Take I-76 westbound to Exit 2/I-676 northbound
- Take I-676 northbound to Exit 1/Collings Avenue
- Turn right onto Collings Avenue
- Turn left onto I-676 southbound which becomes I-76 eastbound
- Take I-76 eastbound to Exit 1A/I-295 southbound

In addition, I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound is scheduled to have the right lane closed tonight, Tuesday, February 15 from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, February 16. At least three lanes will be maintained. There is the possibility of temporary 15-minute traffic stoppages overnight on I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound to provide safety to workers and motorists during the removal of components of the bridge that span additional lanes of traffic.

Friday, February 18

The I-295 northbound Exit 26, which becomes the left lane of I-76 westbound, is scheduled to be closed from 9 p.m. Friday, February 18 until 8 a.m. Saturday, February 19. The closure will allow underdeck and shielding work below the Browning Road Bridge. The following detour will be in place:

I-295 northbound Exit 26 to I-76 westbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on I-295 northbound will be directed to continue on I-295 north to Exit 27
- Take the left Exit 27 ramp to I-76 westbound

Overnight lane closures continue for several weeks

In the coming weeks, there will be lane closures on I-295, I-76, and Route 42 Monday through Friday nights to allow for the Browning Road Bridge demolition. The closures are scheduled to take place from 9 p.m. until 6 a.m. the next day on I-295 southbound and I-76 eastbound/Route 42 southbound. Closures on I-295 northbound and Route 42 northbound/I-76 westbound will take place from 9 p.m. until 5 a.m. the next day.

Typically, only two lanes of traffic in one direction will be closed at any one time with at least one lane open to traffic. To provide safety to workers and motorists, there is the possibility of temporary 15-minute traffic stoppages on some nights to accommodate the removal of bridge components that span additional lanes of traffic. In addition, there is the possibility for ramp closures and detours that have been used in the past, to provide additional safety.

The demolition of the Browning Road Bridge is beginning with the removal of pipe and conduit under the bridge, as well as installation of shielding under the bridge. When this work is complete, the deck will be removed and then the steel girders. Once all of the bridge structure over the I-295, I-76 and Route 42 is removed, demolition work will move to the east abutment and then to the west abutment. All of this work should be completed by spring.

The work is part of the Direct Connect project that will provide a seamless route for I-295 motorists traveling through the interchange of I-295, I-76, and Route 42. To sign up for I-295 Direct Connect project updates go to <u>295DirectConnect.com</u> or text CONNECT to 1-844-844-3681.

Portable variable message signs are being utilized to provide advance notification to the public of all 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 www.511nj.org for real-time travel information, and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter @NewJerseyDOT or on the NJDOT Facebook page.

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