



# NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

**For Immediate Release:**

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## **NJDOT Announces expanded hours to use Route 1 shoulder as a travel lane beginning Tuesday in South Brunswick** **Cars allowed to use the shoulder until 10 a.m.**

**(Trenton)** – The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) today announced expanded hours when the Route 1 shoulder may be used as a travel lane during the morning commute in South Brunswick, Middlesex County.

Starting on Tuesday, August 30 cars may use the shoulder as a travel lane between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday for a 1.9-mile stretch of Route 1 northbound and southbound from Independence Way to Raymond Road. Previously, the shoulder was used as a travel lane until 9 a.m. Extending the use of the shoulder as a travel lane by an additional hour until 10 a.m. will allow morning traffic to flow more smoothly and prevent congestion.

The use of the shoulder as a travel lane is known as “hard shoulder running.” Route 1 is three lanes before and after this section of the highway, causing a bottleneck and delays where the three lanes merge to two lanes. Hard shoulder running during peak periods keeps traffic flowing, reduces congestion, and improves safety. Since the shoulder has been used as a travel lane, average speed has increased from 13 mph to 31 mph, while allowing for additional capacity on this stretch of Route 1.

The \$2.9 million Route 1 Permanent Hard Shoulder Running Project has improved motorist safety, improved emergency access for first responders, increased capacity and travel reliability, and cut commute times by up to 50 percent.

Overhead Lane Use Control Signs alert motorists when they can use the shoulder as a travel lane. The signs display a green arrow during peak travel hours when the shoulder may be used, and a red “X” during all other times when hard shoulder running is not permitted.

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](http://www.511nj.org) for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NewJerseyDOT](https://twitter.com/NewJerseyDOT) and our [Facebook page](#).

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