

For Immediate Release:

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Route 9 overnight closures start Monday as paving project begins in Lakewood and Toms River, Ocean County

Closures necessary for water and drainage work

(Trenton) – Route 9 in both directions between Indian Head Road and Church Road in Toms River will be closed and detoured beginning at 9 p.m. Monday, September 12 until 5 a.m. Tuesday, September 13, and continuing Monday through Friday nights for approximately three months. All lanes will reopen by 5 a.m. each day. The following detours will be in place overnight:

Route 9 southbound between Church Road and Indian Head Road detour:

- Motorists on Route 9 southbound will be directed to turn right onto Stevens Road (which is before Church Road)
- Turn left onto Whitesville Road/CR 571
- At the traffic signal, turn left to continue on Whiteville Road/CR 571 eastbound, which becomes Indian Head Road
- Take the ramp to Route 9 southbound

Route 9 northbound between Indian Head Road and Church Road detour:

- Motorists on Route 9 northbound will be directed to turn right onto Indian Head Road/CR 571 eastbound
- Turn left onto Old Freehold Road
- Turn left onto Church Road back to Route 9

The closures are necessary for water main relocation in preparation for a pavement preservation and congestion relief project on Route 9 between Indian Head Road in Toms River to 2nd Street in Lakewood. The initial construction will be done in six sections. Work on this first section of Route 9, between Indian Head Road and Church Road in Toms River, is expected to be complete by the end of this year. NJDOT will provide information before work moves to the next section.

The \$48.5 million pavement preservation and congestion relief project will resurface approximately seven miles of Route 9 in both directions between Indian Head Road in Toms River and 2nd Street in Lakewood. The project will also widen eight signalized intersections and add two new signals at Oak Street and the Broadway/Chateau Drive intersections in Lakewood. At seven unsignalized intersections, left turn lanes will be added.

Pedestrian safety improvements include the installation of 1.6 miles of new sidewalks, reconstructing 5.9 miles of sidewalks, and the installation of hundreds of ADA-compliant ramps. At signalized intersections, pedestrian countdown heads, push buttons, and signage will be added or updated. Wider shoulders will be incorporated in certain areas to improve bicycle safety and guiderail will be updated. The project is scheduled to be completed Summer of 2025.

Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website $\underline{\text{www.511nj.org}}$ for real-time travel information, and for NJDOT news follow us on Twitter $\underline{\text{@NewJerseyDOT}}$ or on the $\underline{\text{NJDOT}}$ Facebook page.

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