



## Virtual Public Information Center

April 15, 2024, to April 30, 2024

### Route 57 and County Route 519 Intersection Improvement Lopatcong Township, Warren County, New Jersey

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns, and costs. NJDOT will hold a **Virtual Public Information Center (PIC)** to provide local residents and businesses with information about NJDOT's **Route 57 and County Route 519 Intersection Improvement** project. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by mail or email.

#### The Meeting

The Public Information Center will be conducted virtually at the following website:

<https://www.arorapc.com/page/rt-57-and-519-intersection-improvement.php>

Please review the presentation at a time that is convenient for you between April 15 to April 30, 2024. After the presentation, you will have an opportunity to submit comments to the NJDOT. Property owners with rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate.

If you are unable to view the presentation and are interested in learning about this project, please contact us at the telephone number or email address listed below.

#### Project Overview

Route (RT) 57 is a two-lane Urban Principal Arterial roadway with 11-foot lanes, and County Route (CR) 519 is a two-lane Urban Minor Arterial roadway with 12-foot lanes in each direction. The posted speed limit on both roadways is 50 MPH. The existing outside shoulder width on RT 57 and CR 519 varies from 3 to 8 feet, which does not meet the minimum 8-foot standard per NJDOT Roadway Design Manual (RDM). Current studies show the RT 57 and CR 519 intersection experiences higher rear-end crashes than the State's average, and traffic delays occur at peak periods. There is an existing signal at this intersection which is not ADA-compliant or up to the latest MUTCD standards, and the existing guide rail and parapet attachments within the project limits do not meet current NJDOT standards. The structures over Lopatcong Creek are functionally obsolete and the Route 57 bridge is structurally deficient. The project addresses the intersection and the immediate adjacent roadway and structural deficiencies to improve the safety and operations of the RT 57 and CR 519 intersection.

Proposed improvements include:

- Widen the roadway section to accommodate exclusive left-turn lanes at all approaches.
- Add exclusive right-turn along the northbound CR 519 approach.
- Replace RT 57 and CR 519 bridges over Lopatcong Creek.
- Provide standard guide rails and impact attenuators.

- Provide ADA-compliant pedestrian access and bicycle compatibility.

#### Construction Staging

Traffic detours are not anticipated since the proposed widened roadway facilitates construction staging. The traffic in each direction is maintained during the two major construction stages:

- Stage 1 - Traffic is maintained on the existing roadways and bridges while the CR 519 west side and RT 57 south side roadways and bridges are under construction. At the end of Stage 1, traffic is shifted to the newly built roadways and structures.
- Stage 2 - The existing bridges are demolished, followed by the construction of the remaining half of each bridge and roadway sections.

Existing utilities in the project area will be permanently or temporarily relocated during construction.

#### Environmental Information

Due to the possible presence of archaeological resources in the project area, consultation with the *New Jersey State Historic Preservation Office* (NJSHPO) is ongoing. NJDOT is required to solicit public input to assist in carrying out the Section 106 process. Historic preservation organizations, historical societies, and similar groups, or individuals with information about cultural resources (archaeological or architectural) in the project area are encouraged to view the Public Information Center and submit comments to the contact information below.

Disturbance to the Lopatcong Creek wetlands, transition areas, flood hazard areas, and riparian zones will require NJDEP Division of Land Resource Protection permits. The anticipated permits include *NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit*, *Freshwater Wetland Individual Permit*, and compliance with *NJDEP Stormwater Rules* and will be obtained during the next design phase of the project.

#### Estimated Schedule

Complete Preliminary Engineering .....Fall of 2024  
Start Final Design.....End of 2024  
Start of Construction (anticipated).....Spring 2027  
Complete Construction (anticipated).....FY2029

#### For more information, please contact:

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