



Virtual Public Information Center

Whitehead Road Bridge over D&R Canal Lawrence Township, Mercer County

January 11, 2021– January 29, 2021

<https://taylorwiseman.com/njdotvirtualpic/whiteheadroadbridgereplacement/>

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements which best balance transportation needs, community concerns, the environment and cost, will hold a **Public Information Center** to inform local residents, public officials and the business community about the **Whitehead Road Bridge over Delaware & Raritan (D&R) Canal** bridge replacement project. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments by e-mail.

Website Presentation

The Public Information Center will be held virtually from January 11, 2021 through January 29, 2021, and can be accessed at the following internet location:

<https://taylorwiseman.com/njdotvirtualpic/whiteheadroadbridgereplacement/>

Project Overview

The purpose of the project is to provide a reliable and safe crossing of Whitehead Road over the D&R Canal to better serve the traveling public and surrounding communities. To achieve this, bridge replacement is recommended based on the bridge condition, geometry, and highway safety Project Needs. The existing bridge is classified as Structurally Deficient due to the poor condition of the superstructure resulting in a Sufficiency Rating of 51.8. The bridge is located in the D&R Canal Park but is under NJDOT jurisdiction.

There were several alternatives considered during the conceptual development phase of the project. The proposed Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA) recommends replacing the existing 2-span concrete bridge with a single-span prestressed concrete adjacent voided slab beam bridge with reinforced concrete abutments. The proposed abutments will match the existing abutment locations and provide a waterway opening of 40.5 feet. The bridge deck will consist of an 8-inch thick cast-in-place reinforced concrete slab. At the request of Mercer County, a "road-diet" will be implemented to reduce the existing 4-lane roadway section to two 12-foot lanes, two variable width auxiliary lanes, a 12-foot striped center median (which becomes a center left turn lane north of the bridge), and 7-foot wide shoulders beyond the auxiliary lanes. The bridge will also contain 6-foot wide sidewalks and 1-foot wide parapets.

To maintain the existing underclearance over the canal, the roadway profile will be raised 1.7 feet at the bridge. The profile of the Route 1 SB on ramp (north of the bridge) will be raised to match the proposed Whitehead Road profile requiring approximately 200 feet of ramp reconstruction. Proposed sidewalks will be constructed along each side of Whitehead Road throughout the project and provide connections to existing sidewalks.

Right-of-way (ROW) impacts are comprised of temporary construction and aerial utility easements from both Block 1201 Lot 14 (ASI Contractor Supply) and Block 1201 Lot 15 (Transcontinental Gas Co. regulator station). Utility impacts are limited to temporarily relocating the underground electrical conduit running through the bridge to an aerial line outside of the bridge construction zone. The utility lines will be returned to conduits within the bridge sidewalk area upon completion of construction.

Traffic using Whitehead Road will be maintained for the duration of construction, which is anticipated to take a minimum of 12 months. The bridge can be replaced in two stages, maintaining one lane of traffic in each direction at all times. Temporary traffic signals on either side of the bridge and temporary ramp pavement will maintain access to all Route 1 ramps within the project limits. The D&R Canal Trail will be temporarily realigned twice during the staging to maintain pedestrian access and connectivity.

Estimated Schedule

Preliminary Engineering	2021 – 2022
Final Design	2023 – 2025
Construction:	2026 – 2027

For more information, please contact:

Kimberly Nance
New Jersey Department of Transportation
Office of Government & Community Relations
1035 Parkway Avenue, P.O. Box 600
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600
Phone: (609) 963-1989
Kimberly.Nance@dot.nj.gov

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