

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
I-287/I-78, I-287/Routes 202/206 Interchange Improvements Project
Bridgewater and Bedminster Townships, Somerset County

Bedminster Township Conservation Easement Diversion Green Acres Scoping Meeting

Public Information Center
Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7 pm

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost, will hold a **Public Information Center** to inform local residents and businesses of the proposed **I-287/I-78, I-287/Routes 202/206 Interchange Improvements Project located in Bridgewater and Bedminster Townships, Somerset County**. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

The Meeting

The Public Information Center will be held at the **Bedminster Town Hall, 1 Miller Lane, Bedminster Township on Monday, May 2, 2016 at 7 pm**. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the proposed project, ask questions and discuss any concerns with municipal officials, NJDOT staff and representatives.

Background

The overall purpose of this project is to enhance safety and improve traffic operations within the existing interchanges of I-287 with I-78 (Interchange 21) and I-287 with Routes 202-206 (Interchange 22). The project involves relocating the existing ramp from I-78 eastbound to I-287 northbound from a left side entry, as it currently exists, to a right side entry in order to eliminate the downstream weave condition and reduce vehicle conflicts and driver decisions on I-287 northbound between Interchanges 21 and 22.

The project also includes realigning the existing ramp from I-287 northbound to Routes 202/206 southbound and eliminating a stop condition at the ramp terminal to provide for continuous flow of ramp traffic onto Routes 202/206 southbound while reducing potential queuing of traffic on the ramp (and onto I-287) and to reduce vehicle conflicts and maneuvering upon joining the Routes 202/206 southbound roadway.

Proposed Project

The proposed project consists of the following:

- A new flyover ramp from I-78 eastbound which connects with a right side entry to I-287 northbound by means of a new loop. This new ramp will eliminate the existing ramp along with its left side entry to I-287 northbound.

- The new flyover ramp will require construction of two new bridges spanning over the existing I-287 northbound to I-78 westbound ramp and over the I-287 southbound roadway.
- The existing ramp from I-287 northbound to I-78 eastbound will be shifted further to the south to provide room to construct the new loop ramp.
- The mainline lanes of I-287 northbound will be realigned within the existing highway footprint such that the fourth northbound through lane originates on the right side of the roadway at the new loop ramp entry (as opposed to the left side entry as now exists).
- Realignment of the existing I-287 northbound ramp to Routes 202/206 southbound and provision of an auxiliary lane along Routes 202/206 southbound.

Proposed Green Acres Diversion

In 2003, in connection with a municipal site plan approval for a planned commercial development on Block 71.01 Lot 1, Bedminster Township accepted interest in a conservation easement on the remainder of the property. The conservation easement consists of two tracts of land totaling 14.083 acres. The terms of the conservation easement specifically precludes public access and use of the property. To accommodate the proposed improvements, NJDOT will require the acquisition of 2.2 acres of land from within the conservation easement to accommodate the project. The remainder of the easement will remain. The diversion of the conservation easement will be subject to prior review and approval of the NJDEP Green Acres Program in accordance with N.J.A.C 7:36.

Estimated Project Schedule

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| Estimated Construction Start: | Summer 2016 |
| Estimated Construction Completion: | Summer 2018 |

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