#### NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

# I-287/I-78, I-287/Routes 202/206 Interchange Improvements Project Bridgewater and Bedminster Townships, Somerset County

Public Information Center Tuesday, August 30, 2016 from 4:00 – 7:00 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 Tuesday, August 30, 2016 from 4:00 to 7:00 pm. Please plan to attend at a time that is convenient for you. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the project, ask questions and discuss any concerns with 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 so 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.
- The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) has approved the Freshwater Wetlands and Flood Hazard Area permits for this project.

## **Traffic Control During Construction**

All traffic lanes will remain open during peak hours. Offpeak hour lane closures, including overnight hours will be employed to perform construction not otherwise possible under fully open traffic lanes. Traffic slowdowns on the highways and ramps will be required during overnight hours for erection and removal of bridge girders and overhead sign structures.

### Reforestation

As part of the proposed plans, planting will be included in accordance with the New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act, enacted by the New Jersey Senate and General Assembly and approved on January 29, 2001.

# **Estimated Project Schedule**

Estimated Construction Start: September 2016 Estimated Construction Completion: December 2019

## For further information, please contact:

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