



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: What is the purpose and why is NJDOT undertaking this project?**

A: The New Jersey Department of Transportation NJDOT is undertaking the project to address deficient pavement along this 6.9-mile section of Route 9 between Milepost 95.0 (at Swain Avenue) in Toms River Township and Milepost 101.9 (near 2nd Street) in Lakewood Township. The project will address operational (congestion) issues, safety needs at select signalized intersections, and bicycle and pedestrian needs along the corridor.

**Q: How will the proposed project address pavement deficiencies?**

A: Pavement deficiencies will be addressed by milling and repaving the majority of the roadway, adding new pavement sections as needed, and providing an additional High-Performance Thin Overlay on all paved surfaces. These pavement treatments meet the latest pavement standards.

**Q: How will the proposed project address operational issues?**

A: The addition of turning lanes throughout the corridor will allow vehicles to safely exit the flow of traffic and make their turns. Roadway widening to increase storage and throughput at traffic signals along with optimized signal timings will produce a smoother flow of traffic. These measures are expected to considerably improve the average travel speed through the corridor and reduce congestion at choke points.

**Q: How will the proposed project address safety?**

A: Safety features incorporated into the project include widening to allow the addition of shoulders at select locations to increase outside shoulder width and aid bicyclists, improving pedestrian safety by providing new sidewalk, ADA-compliant curb ramps and crosswalks, and countdown heads and pedestrian pushbuttons at traffic signals. Guide rail will be upgraded to meet current crash standards. Chateau Drive will be realigned with Broadway, and two new signals will be constructed at the difficult Chateau/Broadway and Oak Street intersections with Route 9.

**Q: How will stormwater and drainage be addressed on the proposed project?**

A: Roadway drainage systems, which include items such as pipes and inlets, have been designed to current NJDOT standards. Stormwater runoff will be collected and treated within multiple stormwater management basins to meet the latest New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection regulations.

**Q: How will traffic be maintained during construction, and will there be detours?**

A: During resurfacing, traffic will be maintained utilizing alternating one-way traffic or one-direction detours. Due to the high traffic volume and seasonal traffic impacts, work that allows only a single-lane or diversion of traffic has been limited to late night hours. Work that can be performed maintaining all existing through lanes or by shifting lanes will be permitted during the daytime.





The NJDOT and Resident Engineer will review the detour routes as construction progresses to make sure that they are meeting operational needs. The contractor will also be responsible to provide acceptable pedestrian detours and diversions as needed.

**Q: Will there be any impacts to driveways within the project limits?**

A: Many driveway access points within the project limits will be slightly impacted due to the addition of the High-Performance Thin Overlay. Typically, access driveways to businesses and homes are maintained throughout construction, but in certain circumstances, NJDOT's Resident Engineer and the contractor may need to maintain only partial access during construction operations for short durations. Should the need for a temporary driveway access restriction be identified during construction, the NJDOT will coordinate with the impacted property owner directly.

**Q: Is any property being taken to build this project?**

A: The right-of-way easements and property takes needed to construct this project have been developed with an emphasis on limiting the impacts to property owners and the environment. NJDOT is responsible for identifying, reviewing, and negotiating each right-of-way parcel on the project, which is in progress. The contractor will be limited to work on only those properties for which the right-of-way has been secured by NJDOT.

**Q: What is the timeline for this project?**

A: We have reached the construction phase for the project. The contractor who will complete the work has been selected by NJDOT, and construction is scheduled to begin in late September 2022. The schedule for construction to proceed depends on needed right-of-way acquisitions by NJDOT. The end construction date is currently slated for Summer 2025.

**Q: How are the concerns of local businesses and the community being accounted for?**

A: Community involvement is a key component throughout all phases of NJDOT projects. The NJDOT has involved officials from Toms River and Lakewood Townships throughout the design phase, as well as officials from Ocean County. Public Information Centers have been held in both municipalities and in both English and Spanish to educate the public about the project and allow concerns and questions to be addressed. The Virtual Public Information Center at the website: <https://www.state.nj.us/transportation> will be active between August 30 and September 5, 2022.

**Q: What measures have been taken to address environmental justice?**

A: The project will not have a disproportionate impact to Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. The proposed project will neither isolate any residential neighborhoods nor adversely impact community cohesion in the project area. The project will improve the existing transportation network within the area, including improved pedestrian and biking safety.





**Q: How will utilities be affected and maintained during construction?**

A: This project area is served by extensive networks of utilities from ten different utility companies. These include underground electric, telephone, gas, sanitary sewer, cable tv, and water facilities, as well as pole mounted electric, telephone, fiber optics, and cable tv facilities. Portions of the utility networks must be relocated to make way for the new construction, and brief disruptions to service may occur. Property owners will be notified in advance of any service interruption. Utilities will be relocated to their new permanent locations at the start of each construction stage, prior to any paving being done. The project will also include the placement of intelligent transportation system (ITS) manholes and conduits to facilitate future ITS operations.

**Q: How can I stay informed, ask questions, or offer suggestions?**

A: NJDOT encourages community members to voice their concerns and contribute suggestions to the Project Team. To provide input, attend the virtual Public Information Center or contact:

Office of Community and Constituent Relations  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
1035 Parkway Avenue  
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609.963.1982

