

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Route 35, Greenwood Drive to Prospect Avenue Old Bridge and Aberdeen, Middlesex and Monmouth counties Proposed Roadway Improvements

Project Status June 2009

Background

The project is proposed to mitigate the existing flooding on Route 35 and to improve safety and traffic operations at the existing signalized intersections.

The Proposed Project

NJDOT plans to improve a 1.25-mile section of Route 35 beginning just north of Prospect Avenue in Aberdeen and extending to just north of Greenwood Drive in Old Bridge Township, with no change to the center line alignment of Route 35, for the purposes of:

Improving safety and drainage along Route 35 by:

- modifying the vertical profile and installing curb along the project.
- Raising the roadway at the stream crossings and replacing the pipes with larger culverts to minimize the effects of tidal flooding.
- Designing new drainage systems to improve the drainage.

Improving pedestrian safety by:

- constructing a sidewalk at certain locations along within the project limits.
- providing pedestrian crosswalks and ramps at intersections.

Improving signalized intersections within project limits at:

- Birchwood Drive, Old Bridge, by channeling Furman Boulevard for Route 35 northbound traffic and making it one-way between Ocean Boulevard and Route 35. Lengthen the existing southbound jughandle for more storage space. Terminate Greenwood Drive with a cul-de-sac to accommodate the jughandle improvements.
- County Road, Aberdeen, by widening the road to provide a left-turn lane and a shared right-turn/through lane at the traffic signal.
- Cliffwood Avenue, Aberdeen, by widening the road at the signalized intersection with Route 35 on the westbound approach to provide one left-turn lane, one through lane and one shared through right-turn lane. Also widening on the eastbound approach to accommodate an additional right-turn only lane.
- Amboy Avenue and Route 35, Aberdeen, signalized intersection by adding an additional through lane to Route 35 SB and adjusting signal timings. NJDOT will close the direct connection between Amboy Avenue and the Cliffwood Avenue jughandle for safety reasons.

The Status

NJDOT has just completed a Preliminary Design Submission (PDS), at the end of May 2009. The purpose of the PDS is to provide the Department with reasonable assurance that the design of the project is proceeding within schedule and that the designer has considered all areas that can have an impact on the design of the project. Department Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) are reviewing the PDS and resolution will be achieved with the designer.

Currently the Department is administering the NJ State Highway Access Code. The Department has begun this process by notifying and working with affected property owners to adjust their driveway access to the State Highway. Subsequent to PDS comment resolution and Access Code compliance, the Department will begin the process of working with property owners to acquire the necessary right of way or easements required for the project.

Several tasks have been completed which are required for the PDS including:

- Stream hydraulic analysis to mitigate flooding at Whale and Long Neck Creeks for determination of the size of new culverts and to determine how high to raise the road.
- Preparation of Access Code Compliance mapping to mail to property owners in order to show access alterations to install curbing, improve safety on Route 35 and to accommodate the design.
- Subsurface Exploration Program in order to determine the soil conditions for culvert foundation design and for roadway design.

Other tasks have been brought up to a Preliminary Design level in order to identify right of way and environmental impacts including design and plan preparation for traffic signals, roadway drainage, lighting, signing and striping, intelligent transportation systems (ITS), traffic control and staging, culverts and coordination with utility companies for relocation schemes.

Raw Construction Cost Estimate - \$16.3 million
Estimated Construction Start – Summer 2011 if funds are available.

For further information contact:

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