

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Route 31 Bridge over CSX Railroad
Pennington Borough, Mercer County
Pre-Construction Public Information Center
Monday, August 1, 2016, 5 – 8 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, officials and the business community about the **proposed construction of Route 31 Bridge Replacement over CSX Railroad, Culvert Replacement over Seminary Creek, and pavement improvements in Pennington Borough, Mercer 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 on **Monday, August 1, 2016 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Pennington Borough Municipal Building, 30 North Main Street, Pennington.** Information on construction of the project will be provided at this presentation.

The Proposed Project

This project is to replace the structurally deficient bridge over CSX railroad and the structurally deficient culvert over Seminary Creek. The pavement between MP 6.84 to 7.33 needs repair.

1. **Route 31, Bridge over CSX:** The existing bridge will be demolished and replaced with a single span 103'-2" steel girder superstructure on concrete abutments and spread footings. The existing alignment and a 23' vertical under-clearance will be maintained, and the proposed cross section across the bridge will consist of one 12'-0" through lane, one 10'-0" right shoulder, and a 5'-0" sidewalk in both directions. The proposed parapets will reflect most of the original historical characteristics.
2. **Route 31, Roadway:** The existing pavement box and raised median will be removed from MP 6.84 to 7.33 and replaced with a 30" deep pavement box. Two water quality structures will be provided for the two watersheds north and south of the bridge to meet NJDEP requirements. The storm drainage systems were designed to convey peak flow during a 25-year storm event and to control the spread of storm water across the pavement during a 10-year storm event.
3. **Route 31, Culvert over Seminary Creek:** The new culvert will be an in-kind-replacement with a 3-sided precast concrete culvert providing the same overall length and the same hydraulic opening as the existing culvert. The roadway will provide one 12' wide travel lane and one 10' wide shoulder in each direction. An existing collapsed concrete headwall will be replaced in-kind and an existing 15" storm drain outfall will be replaced by an 18" outfall with new headwall and riprap scour hole.

Stage Construction

A primary two stage construction sequence is proposed. All existing lanes of traffic (one in each direction) are to be maintained during construction. Construction is expected to be completed over two construction seasons. Utility relocations involving overhead aerial utilities and poles will need to be performed at the onset of construction.

Construction access to structure areas will be from NJDOT ROW. Access to local businesses, place of worship, and private residences will be maintained during construction.

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.

Green Acres:

NJDOT has a requirement to mitigate for the loss of trees under the NJDEP Green Acres Program. To accommodate construction, trees were removed on the Friends of Hopewell Valley (FOHV) property located within the Route 31 CSX Bridge Replacement Project limits. During consultation with the FOHV and NJDEP Green Acres the FOHV identified the Hollystone Preserve, which is also located within the Township of Hopewell, as their preferred site for mitigation planting. The Hollystone Preserve is a 108 acre Green Acres protected property, co-owned by NJDEP and Mercer County Parks that is managed by the Friends of Hopewell Valley.

Cultural Resources:

Federal regulations pertaining to the protection of historic properties, referred to as the Section 106 process, require the NJDOT to take into account the effect of proposed projects upon historic resources listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. NJDOT has obtained a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) dated April 9, 2014 signed by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), NJDOT and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) agreeing to mitigation to historic properties for this project. A handout with information about the process will be available at the Public Information Center.

Project Schedule:

Estimated Start of Construction:	Summer 2016
Estimated Completion:	Fall 2018

For more information, please contact:

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