

Slide 1 – Title Slide

Welcome to the virtual public information center for the Jones Road over Route 4 bridge replacement project. The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and costs. This virtual public information center is being presented to provide you with information about the project. At the conclusion, you will be able answer a questionnaire - where you can submit questions, and comment on the project.

Slide 2 – Project Location

The proposed project area is located at the intersection of Route 4 and Jones Road in the City of Englewood, in Bergen County, NJ. Route 4 intersects with regionally significant highways, including the Garden State Parkway, Interstate 95, US Routes 1 and 9, US Route 46 and NJ Route 17. Jones Road is a two-lane road with exit and entrance ramps that access both eastbound and westbound Route 4. The project area lies within a densely developed residential section of the City of Englewood. An unnamed tributary to Flat Rock Brook runs in a northerly direction to the east of the proposed project. This tributary flows into the main branch of the Flat Rock Brook which flows to the north of the project area. The site is adjacent to forested properties, some of which are encumbered by Green Acres, whose approval for diversion is currently being negotiated. The regional land use and land cover is primarily high-density residential development - with commercial development further from the project area.

Slide 3 – Project Need

The primary purpose of the proposed project is to improve the bridge that carries Jones Road over Route 4. The structure has been identified by NJDOT's management system in need of replacement due to poor condition of the deck and substructure, as well as inadequate vertical and lateral under-clearances.

The existing bus stop on Route 4 *westbound* is only accessible by an unpaved path and stairs at Jones Road and adjacent to the bus stop. Lighting is not provided on the path or at the bus stop. The bus stop on Route 4 *eastbound* lacks sidewalks and crosswalks to link it to Jones Road. Existing sidewalks in the project area are not in compliance with the American Disabilities Act (ADA).

Slide 4 – Project Overview

The proposed project replaces the existing Jones Road through-girder bridge over Route 4 with a longer, single span multi-girder superstructure. Drainage improvements include upgraded drainage inlets that will reduce flooding within the Jones Road and Route 4 interchange. New curb, sidewalk, and guide rail improvements to the existing ramps to and from eastbound Route 4, and the Irving Avenue ramp to and from westbound Route 4, are also included.

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The proposed project will also provide a new realigned pedestrian path that will link Jones Road to an improved New Jersey Transit bus stop on westbound Route 4. Under the proposed project, NJDOT will construct the new ADA compliant path, install new lighting along the realigned path and provide the concrete slab for the new bus stop. New ADA compliant pedestrian walkways to and from the existing Route 4 eastbound bus stop will also be provided.

Slide 5 – Project Overview

The proposed improvements to the bridge structure, approach roadways, and ramps include the replacement of the existing thru-girder bridge with a redundant multi-girder bridge. The proposed bridge will elevate the profile of Jones Road approximately three feet to improve Route 4 under-clearance issues. The bridge will have a minimum vertical clearance of fourteen foot, nine inches, and a span length of approximately 202 feet, which is sufficient to accommodate potential future widening of Route 4. The proposed bridge cross section consists of 15-foot traffic lanes and 6-foot sidewalks in both directions.

The existing aerial electric, telephone, and cable utilities currently crossing Route 4 immediately east of the bridge will be relocated through the bridge in the first stage of construction. In addition, a new water main will be installed between girders to replace the existing line.

Six-foot wide pedestrian sidewalks will be provided across both sides of the new bridge, both of which will be ADA compliant. Consistent with the latest NJDOT Complete Streets Policy, the 15-foot wide traffic lanes will provide bicycle passage across the bridge. These lanes will include bicycle safe grates. Aside from periodic short-term closures for bridge removal, girder erection, center abutment construction and placement of deck concrete, Jones Road will remain open to vehicular and pedestrian traffic for the duration of the project.

Slide 6 – Construction Staging: Stage 1

Although the project will be constructed in four stages, to minimize impacts on Jones Road traffic the bridge will be built in three *major* stages. During construction, the City of Englewood requested that NJDOT keep Jones Road open to traffic except for three one-week road closures for beam erection, and to maintain at least one of the sidewalks open to pedestrians over Route 4.

Prior to bridge demolition and construction, the overhead utility lines will be relocated temporarily along Route 4 and Jones Road to provide enough working room for cranes to operate. This work will be done by PSE&G and will take approximately four months to complete.

During Stage 1, Jones Road two-way traffic will use the existing bridge and pedestrians will use the east sidewalk. Both ramps to and from eastbound Route 4 and westbound Route 4 will remain open to traffic.

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The Route 4 westbound bus stop will be closed, the Jones Road southbound sidewalk will be removed, and the new southbound steel superstructure will be built. A temporary construction barrier will be placed on the new structure to open the new portion of the bridge to southbound traffic. During this stage, the permanent utility relocations to be carried by the bridge will be constructed and put into service prior to moving to Stage 2. Stage 1 will take approximately nine months to complete.

Slide 7 – Construction Staging: Stage 2

For Stage 2, northbound Jones Road traffic will use the existing bridge, while southbound Jones Road traffic will be transferred to the new west side bridge deck and sidewalk area. Pedestrians will continue to use the existing east bridge sidewalk. Southbound Jones Road exit traffic to eastbound and westbound Route 4 will be prohibited while detours for the bridge closure will be implemented for all of Stage 2.

A temporary strongback system to support the existing bridge will be installed during this stage. The existing southbound side of the structure will be demolished, and the new center portion will be constructed. A temporary construction barrier will be placed on the new structure to open the new portion of the bridge to the temporary northbound traffic. Stage 2 will take approximately eight months to complete including a winter shutdown.

Slide 8 – Construction Staging: Stage 3

During Stage 3, both lanes of Jones Road traffic will be transferred to the new bridge and pedestrians relocated to the new west sidewalk. Jones Road southbound access to Route 4 will remain closed and Jones Road access to Route 4 westbound will also be closed in this stage.

The temporary strongback system will be removed and the remaining portion of the existing superstructure will be demolished. The new northbound section will be built, and the temporary construction barriers will be removed. Stage 3 will take approximately five months to complete.

Slide 9 – Construction Staging: Final Stage

The project will be completed with roadway paving, completing the bus platform and path area, pouring the concrete sidewalks, and fertilizing, seeding, and landscaping. Both lanes of Jones Road will be placed in their final configuration. Pedestrian traffic will be shifted from the west sidewalk to the new east sidewalk. Both ramps will be open to all traffic movements. After removal of the construction barrier curbing, traffic on eastbound and westbound Route 4 will be restored to normal operations. Access to the new bus stop on westbound Route 4 will be opened. This will take approximately one month to complete.

Slide 10 – Green Acres

The proposed bridge replacement and approach roadway and ramp improvements will result in an encroachment of Green Acres encumbered park properties currently known as Block 3404, Lot 3 and

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Block 3402, Lot 1. The proposed encroachments will be located entirely within City-owned parkland along Jones Road. This proposed Minor Diversion is needed to accommodate the permanent bridge structure and to allow for needed right of way, slope and utility easements and the realigned sidewalk for the new bus stop on Route 4 westbound, all of which are within the park properties. Based on the design plan for the proposed project, the impacts to the Green Acres parkland will result in the loss of 48 trees with a diameter of six inches or greater. The NJDOT will provide landscaping along westbound Jones Road within the impacted portions including six new trees with a 2.5-inch caliper. In addition, NJDOT proposes monetary compensation for tree loss and use of land within the two encumbered Green Acres properties.

Slide 11 – Permitting

The proposed project will result in impacts to the 150-foot wide riparian zone to Flat Rock Brook and its tributary, and the 150-foot wide transition area to adjacent wetlands. Impacts include vegetation removal due to the new and reconstructed sidewalk and the replacement of guiderails. Disturbance within the riparian zone and wetland transition area will require a Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit and an NJDEP Freshwater Wetland Special Activity Transition Area Waiver for Linear Development from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Soil erosion and sediment control measures, such as silt fencing and inlet protection, will be implemented to minimize any sediment runoff during proposed activities. Upon completion of activities, the temporarily disturbed areas will be revegetated with a native seed mix and in some cases with trees and shrubs in accordance with the NJDOT Landscape Plans.

Slide 12 – Project Status

This project is in the Final Design phase, which includes preparing construction plans and specifications and acquiring needed right-of-way. Construction is expected to start in Fiscal Year 2021 and last two years. The project cost is \$25 million.

Slide 13 – Contact Information

For further information, please contact:

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Please provide your comments using the form below. Thank you.