The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) is committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost. NJDOT will hold a Public Information Center to inform local residents, officials, and the business community about the Preliminary Preferred Concept for the Route 1 Northbound, Bridge over Raritan River Project in the Township of Edison and the City of New Brunswick, Middlesex County. You are encouraged to participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

THE MEETING
The Public Information Center will be held at the Township of Edison – Municipal Building, 100 Municipal Boulevard Edison on Thursday, June 29, 2017 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the concept plan, ask questions and share information with NJDOT staff members. Property owners of rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate.

PROJECT BACKGROUND
The Route 1 Northbound Bridge over the Raritan River connects the City of New Brunswick and the Township of Edison. The structure also known as the Morris Goodkind Bridge was constructed in 1929 and reconstructed in 1975 when the Route 1 SB bridge was built. The bridge reflects the Art Deco styling of the 1920s and is a fifteen (15) span structure with six (6) concrete open spandrel main spans and nine (9) approach filled barrel arch spans. Route 1 is an urban arterial and the bridge provides three (3) twelve (12) foot travel lanes, a left shoulder of two (2) feet and a right shoulder width of twelve (12) feet. Along the bridge on both sides is guardrail and a 6’-6” sidewalk.

PROJECT PURPOSE
A Transportation Problem Statement was initiated as a result of previous inspection assessments that the Route 1 Northbound Bridge over the Raritan River is in need of rehabilitation to replace the deck, repair existing spalls, retard further deterioration, preserve the structural integrity, improve safety and extend its useful life.

An additional component to this project will be to address current and future Route 1 Northbound congestion issues on the bridge in order to accommodate future Route 1 Northbound corridor projects.

This project will seek to minimize traffic and community impacts during construction, and minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive areas.

PRELIMINARY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE (PPA)
The Preferred Preliminary Alternative (PPA) concept proposes deck replacement with substructure and superstructure spall repairs. The concept also proposes to address existing and future Route 1 Northbound corridor capacity needs. The existing three (3) travel lane bridge will be widened to accommodate four (4) travel lanes. To provide four (4) travel lanes the bridge will be widened along the west (inner face) section by constructing a cantilever that is structurally and aesthetically compatible with the existing bridge.

The proposed section on the bridge will be four (4) travel lanes at twelve (12) feet, a left shoulder of three (3) feet and a right shoulder of eight (8) feet. The 6’-6” right sidewalk with guidewall will match existing condition. The existing plaques and architectural elements will be reconstructed to ensure its historic characteristics will be retained.

Conceptual staging calls for the rehabilitated bridge to be built in two (2) stages to minimize traffic and community impacts. Staging will maintain three (3) Route 1 Northbound travel lanes by shifting the Route 1 Southbound traffic over the Raritan River right onto its shoulder to maintain three (3) Route 1 Southbound travel lanes and provide the ability to place one (1) Route 1 Northbound travel lane throughout construction. Two (2) Route 1 Northbound travel lanes will be maintained on the structure during construction.

ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE
- Start Preliminary Engineering: Fall 2017
- Start Final Design: Spring 2019
- Start Construction: Spring 2020

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