NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY FACT SHEET

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HUDSON COUNTY EXTENSION IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM



NO CITY, COUNTY, STATE, OR FEDERAL TAX DOLLARS WILL BE UTILIZED TO FUND THE PROGRAM.

At the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, safety and relieving traffic congestion and its negative impacts on drivers, communities, and the environment are top priorities, which is why we're undertaking a critical modernization and safety program to rebuild the Newark Bay-Hudson County Extension.

Opened to traffic in 1956 and constructed to serve the residents of Hudson County, the Extension is 8.1 miles of critical transportation infrastructure from Interchange 14 in Newark to the Jersey Avenue intersection in Jersey City. **The Extension, an official State of New Jersey evacuation route, consists primarily of 29 bridges that are at the end of their life and must be replaced.** The Newark Bay-Hudson County Extension Improvements Program will modernize the Extension to improve its safety and sustainability, relieve traffic congestion and its harmful impacts, accommodate the current and future growth of the adjacent communities and the ports, and address the anticipated impacts of climate change.



NEWARK BAY-HUDSON COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM LIMITS

The Program consists of independent projects. The first project is the reconstruction between Interchange 14 in Newark and Interchange 14A in Bayonne and Jersey City. This Project, which includes 16 bridges and 9 ramps, is the highest priority due to the condition of the nearly 70-year-old structures. Construction will begin in 2026 and is estimated to take 8 - 10 years. A major portion of the Project is the replacement of the Vincent Robert Casciano Bridge, known as the Newark Bay Bridge, with new twin cable-stayed bridges.



For more information, scan the QR code to visit the Program website.

FAST FACTS



The 29 bridges that make up the Extension cannot be rehabilitated. There are significant issues with the structures and they cannot handle the weight of the trucks headed to the ports.



Columbus Drive to Jersey Avenue in Jersey City will NOT include new travel lanes. This project will replace the existing lanes, improve ramp access, and add standard shoulders in each direction for safety, ease of maintenance, and to allow for the passage of emergency vehicles.



Traffic heading into the Holland Tunnel is not the cause of projected increases in traffic on the Extension. Independent origin-destination data show nearly 80% of eastbound Extension traffic is bound for Jersey City (56%), Bayonne (17%), and other parts of Hudson County (6%).



Environmental justice is a key focus of the Program. A draft Executive Order 215 Environmental Impact Statement for Interchanges 14 - 14A was completed in 2023 and a NEPA Environmental Assessment is underway. The draft EIS found that Interchanges 14 - 14A will provide important safety, mobility, and access improvements to overburdened communities in Newark, Bayonne, and Jersey City.



The Turnpike Authority is also investing in the expansion of public transit. On average, the Turnpike Authority contributes approximately half a billion dollars a year—a historic level of funding—to the State of New Jersey for public transit.

MODERNIZATION MEANS

Improving the safety of drivers and communities

With the bridge collapse in Pittsburgh and other places around the country, we've seen what happens when infrastructure is not modernized and rebuilt. Improved design and shoulder widths benefit the families and workers who rely on the Extension while reducing disruptions from maintenance operations that increase traffic on local streets.

Providing capacity for current and future growth

The success of Bayonne, Jersey City, and Newark in transforming their downtowns and neighborhoods, coupled with the record growth of the ports, has generated significant population and job growth that continues to increase cars, delivery service vehicles, and truck traffic on the Extension. The Program will provide two additional travel lanes in each direction from Interchanges 14 - 14A and one additional travel lane in each direction from Interchange 14A to 14C in Jersey City.

Relieving traffic congestion caused by constant repair work

During the past 5 years, there has not been a single month without a lane or shoulder closure due to repair work. Rebuilding the Extension will eliminate the need for constant work and closures, thereby relieving congestion.

Building for sustainability

This Program will ensure that the roadway and its bridges are designed to current standards so that they are sustainable and last for over 100 years.

Employing climate resilience strategies

The most current climate design criteria will be used for the project design, thereby protecting this infrastructure investment and reducing climate impacts.

Prioritizing environmental justice by addressing flooding and pedestrian safety

This Program will include modern stormwater treatment systems and detention basins to better manage the stormwater that runs off the Extension into the combined sewer systems. These treatment and detention systems will help reduce local flooding and pollutants found in stormwater runoff. The Program will also improve pedestrian safety in the neighborhoods adjacent to the Extension. **These solutions are a win for environmental justice.**