Route 8 Design-Build Project
Bridgeport, Connecticut
NEWSLETTER

Project No. 0015-0363

Volume 1, Issue 2

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Have Questions? Comments?
Contact Us!

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Project Status

- Start date: May 11, 2015
- Anticipated completion date: September 2016
- Project budget: $35 M

Public Information Meeting

March 31, 2016
May 2016, Exact Date TBD

Route 8 Construction: Traffic Shifts During Bridge Replacement

The end of winter brings an end to the construction of the Prefabricated Bridge Units (PBUs) at the Exit 5 site and the start of another important stage of the project, the widening of Lindley Street and the Exit 4 off-ramp. It also signals the approach of the center piece of the project, the replacement of the Capitol Avenue and Lindley Street bridge decks. Soon, the PBUs will be transported from the Exit 5 site to the Lindley Street site to await the removal of the existing bridge decks. The PBUs will then be lifted into place, creating new bridge decks. This work will occur in two phases and will require two major shifts of traffic on Route 8; each phase lasting fourteen days.

During the first phase, beginning in mid-June, the southbound bridges will be replaced. During this phase you should expect that:
- Northbound traffic on Route 8 will be reduced to two lanes
- Southbound traffic on Route 8 will be reduced to three lanes and shifted onto the northbound barrel of the highway.

Upon completion of the southbound bridge replacement, traffic flows will return to normal for approximately three weeks. A second phase, scheduled for mid-July, will allow the replacement of the northbound bridges. During this phase you should expect that:
- Southbound traffic on Route 8 will be reduced to two lanes
- Northbound traffic on Route 8 will be reduced to three lanes and shifted onto the southbound barrel of the highway.

During both phases of this work, alternating closures of Lindley Street and Capitol Avenue should be expected. These closures will allow the demolition and construction of the bridges. Additional information on detours will be available in upcoming newsletters and on the project website at RT8Bridgeport.com.

Above: Rendering of Route 8 Traffic Shift
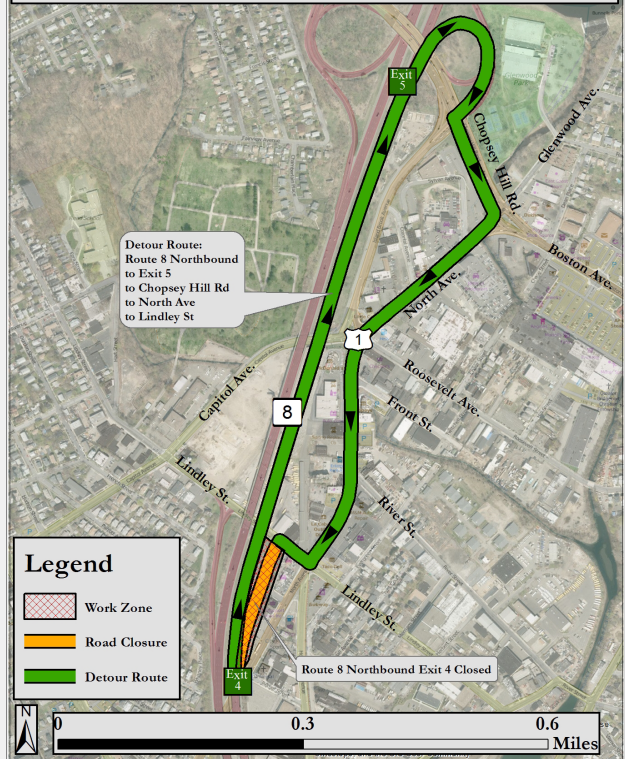
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Route 8 Construction: Local Detours Expected

Starting in April, work will begin on the widening of Lindley Street between the Route 8 overpass and North Avenue as well as the Exit 4 NB off ramp. Although the goal of this work is to provide long term traffic flow improvements through the area, short term benefits will be realized during the bridge replacement phases in June and July. To accomplish this work, the Exit 4 off ramp will need to be closed overnight for several nights. Motorists will be detoured east onto Chopsey Hill Road at Exit 5 and then south onto North Avenue to Lindley Street. Stay tuned for additional information regarding this and other future detours.

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Detour for Northbound Route 8 Exit 4 Closure

Detour Route:
Route 8 Northbound
to Exit 5
to Chopsey Hill Rd
to North Ave
to Lindley St

Legend
Work Zone
Road Closure
Detour Route

Route 8 Northbound Exit 4 Closed

0   0.3   0.6 Miles

Frequently Asked Questions: Q & A

Q: What are PBUs?

A: PBUs, or Pre-Fabricated Bridge Units, are bridge segments that are fabricated at a site away from the main construction site, to be installed at a later date. On this project, the bridge segments that can currently be seen along side Route 8 at Exit 5, consist of two steel beams and a steel reinforced concrete deck. The PBUs will be brought to the construction site and lifted into place to create new bridge decks. Standard staged construction methods would have required long term traffic impacts over a period of two years to allow for the construction of the bridge decks. The use of PBUs will reduce these impacts down to two, fourteen day periods.

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In the next edition look forward to...

Detour Routes and Timeframes