



# NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY

## Newark Bay - Hudson County Extension Improvements Program

Updated 3/6/23

### A FUTURE-FORWARD MODERNIZATION AND SAFETY PROGRAM ▶▶▶▶

At the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (the Authority), passenger and commercial vehicle safety and relieving traffic congestion and its negative impacts are top priorities, which is why the Authority is undertaking a critical modernization and safety program to rebuild the Newark Bay - Hudson County Extension (Extension).

Constructed in 1956, the Extension is 8.1 miles of transportation infrastructure from Interchange 14 in Newark to the Jersey Avenue intersection in Jersey City. **It consists primarily of 29 bridges that are in poor condition and must be replaced.** The Program will modernize the Extension to help ensure its safety and sustainability, relieve traffic congestion and its harmful impacts, accommodate the current and future growth of the surrounding communities and the ports, and address the anticipated impacts of climate change.

**No State or Federal tax dollars will be utilized to fund the Program.**



## NEWARK BAY-HUDSON COUNTY EXTENSION PROGRAM LIMITS

▶ The Newark Bay - Hudson County Extension Improvements Program (Program) consists of four (4) independent projects. Project 1 is the priority with construction anticipated to begin in 2026. The duration of Project 1 is estimated to be 8 - 10 years. The remaining projects, Projects 2, 3, and 4, are anticipated to begin after Project 1.

## FAST FACTS

▶ **Project 4, Columbus Drive area to Jersey Avenue in Jersey City, will NOT include new travel lanes.** This project is proposed to replace the existing two lanes as well as add standard shoulders (5-foot minimum width for the left and 12-foot minimum width for the right) in each direction for safety and maintenance.

▶ **Traffic heading into the Holland Tunnel is not the cause of projected increases in traffic along the Extension corridor.** Morning rush hour traffic volumes show only about 21% of vehicles utilizing the Extension are heading to the Holland Tunnel.

▶ **Environmental justice is a key focus of the Program planning and design process.** There is an environmental assessment currently underway that includes an analysis of the impacts on all of the communities surrounding the Extension.

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

## MODERNIZATION MEANS ▶▶▶▶

### Ensuring the safety of drivers and communities

With the recent bridge collapse in Pittsburgh and other places around the country, we've seen what happens when infrastructure is not modernized and rebuilt.

### Providing capacity for current and future growth

The success of Bayonne, Jersey City, and Newark in transforming their waterfronts, downtowns, and neighborhoods, coupled with the growth of port facilities, has generated significant population and job growth that continues to increase passenger and commercial vehicle traffic on the Extension. The Program will provide two additional travel lanes in each direction from Interchange 14 to 14A and one additional travel lane in each direction from Interchange 14A to Columbus Drive in Jersey City.

### Relieving traffic congestion caused by constant repair work

During the past five 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 decades to come.

### Employing climate resilience strategies

With sea levels rising, this Program will raise the main bridge over Newark Bay, known as the Vincent R. Casciano Memorial Bridge, to allow for the passage of larger ships. In addition, 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 noise impacts

The Program will include modern stormwater treatment systems and retention basins to better manage the stormwater that runs off the Extension into the combined sewer systems. These treatment and retention systems will help reduce local flooding and reduce the levels of pollutants found in stormwater runoff. In addition, noise analyses will be performed and noise barriers will be constructed where appropriate. **These solutions are wins for environmental justice.**



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