

GRADE-SEPARATED U-TURN PROGRAM

FACT SHEET

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) is undertaking a program to construct grade-separated U-Turns for NJTA maintenance vehicles, state police and emergency responders on the southern portion of the Turnpike, from just north of Interchange 5 to the Delaware Memorial Bridge. The Grade-Separated U-Turn Program will construct seven new U-Turns to replace 23 existing cut-throughs in the median barrier.

Grade-separated U-Turns are a traffic design element that allows authorized vehicles to safely change directions on the Turnpike Mainline between interchanges. They are required by Turnpike design standards to facilitate critical maintenance activities (e.g. snow removal) and allow for prompt responses to vehicle accidents, fire, and other emergency concerns. They will be constructed as a structure over the Turnpike Mainline or as an underpass under the Mainline. While two grade-separated U-Turns currently exist between Interchanges 1-5, this program will increase the frequency of these U-Turns to better align with other sections further north on the Turnpike.

The program will permanently eliminate the at-grade median cut-throughs that are currently used by smaller NJTA maintenance, police, and emergency service vehicles. These cut-throughs require vehicles to come to a stop in the left shoulder and quickly accelerate into the left travel lane. These cut-throughs are also not able to accommodate larger emergency service vehicles such as fire trucks.

These grade-separated U-Turns are only for use by authorized maintenance and emergency service vehicles and are not for use by the general public.

LOCATIONS OF THE NEW GRADE-SEPARATED U-TURNS

The new U-Turns will be located at the following locations:

- MP 6.4 in Oldmans Township
- MP 13.4 in Woolwich Township (replacement of an existing U-Turn)
- MP 19.0 in West Deptford Township
- MP 23.0 in Deptford Township
- MP 29.1 in Lawnside Borough (on the border with Haddonfield and Tavistock)
- MP 43.0 in Westampton Township
- MP 46.1 in Springfield Township

The placement of these U-Turns was determined in coordination with the New Jersey State Police, the Office of Emergency Management County Coordinators and other first responders, and was optimized to meet NJTA maintenance and emergency response needs while also limiting right-of-way, utility and environmental impacts.

TIMING

The Grade-Separated U-Turn Program is in the final design phase, with construction anticipated to begin in mid-2025. Construction is anticipated to take approximately four years.

PUBLIC FORUMS

Confirmed/completed public forums to date are as follows:

- MP 43.0 in Westampton Township on August 27, 2024
 - MP 6.4 in Oldmans Townshipon December 17, 2024
 - MP 29.1 in Lawnside Borough on January 28, 2025
 - MP 19.0 in West Deptford Township on February 27, 2025