



## The Pulaski Skyway. A New Jersey Treasure

### NJDOT Unveils Traffic Mitigation Strategies

To minimize traffic congestion during the northbound lane closure, NJDOT is developing a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) which will include a range of traffic mitigation measures to help reduce congestion. This prompted NJDOT to make investments in alternative roadways and travel demand management (TDM) strategies including vanpools, ridesharing, telecommuting and flextime programs.

These strategies were vetted by a task force of local, regional and agency officials, and other stakeholders. The evaluation considered cost, perceived benefit, ability to implement within the time frame needed, and operational feasibility.

#### Travel Demand Management Strategies (TDM)

Travel Demand Management involves strategies aimed at reducing or redistributing demand to other modes of travel. TDM strategies are cost-effective alternatives to increasing capacity.

TDM measures such as telecommuting, flextime, vanpooling and carpooling are low-cost strategies that can reduce the peak period demand on area roadways. Many trips involving the Pulaski Skyway are destined to Jersey City, Hoboken, Newark, or New York, and this focus of destinations promotes the effectiveness of TDM measures.

- Beginning in December 2013 and continuing for several months post-construction, NJDOT will enhance the current NJ TRANSIT Vanpool Sponsorship Program with subsidies for motorists destined to specific zip codes in Hudson County. Motorists who wish to start a vanpool can contact their area Transportation Management Association (TMA) or visit <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/rideshare/tma.shtm>
- The TMAs have committed to partnering with NJDOT to educate and encourage the public and businesses to consider alternate modes of travel, vanpool and ridesharing options.
- The TMAs are working with major employers interested in implementing telecommuting/flextime options.

Beginning in early 2014, the northbound travel lanes on the Route 1&9 Pulaski Skyway will be closed for approximately 24 months as the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) rehabilitates the deck of the Skyway.

For more information about joining a vanpool see page 4. It's a smart move!

# Coming Soon... a Third Lane on the New Jersey Turnpike

NJDOT plans to increase capacity at key locations and roadways expected to receive diverted Skyway traffic.

## I-78/NB-HCE

The NJ Turnpike will provide an additional lane from Interchanges 14 to 14C in the existing shoulder during morning and afternoon peak periods on the I-78/Newark Bay-Hudson County Extension. This additional travel lane will help accommodate the additional volume expected on the turnpike when the Skyway is closed in the northbound direction.

The shoulder will become a "managed lane" controlled by overhead LED displays. See shaded box for details:

### NJ TURNPIKE MANAGED LANE SYSTEM



The **green arrow** will signal to motorists that the shoulder is open for use as a travel lane. The speed limit in all lanes of the NBHCE will be reduced to 45 mph any time the shoulder is open for travel. Because there is always a possibility that a vehicle will be stopped somewhere on the shoulder, motorists will need to exercise caution even when the green arrow is displayed.



The **yellow arrow** will signal to motorists that use of the shoulder for travel is ending, and they must merge into a normal travel lane as soon as safely possible. The yellow arrow will be displayed when traffic volumes have dropped and the NBHCE is returning to normal operation, or when a section of the shoulder ahead is unavailable for travel because of a breakdown or emergency.



The **red X** signals to motorists that the shoulder is closed for use as a travel lane. When the red X is displayed, the shoulder is only to be used for emergency stopping or breakdowns. Traveling in the shoulder while the red X is displayed is prohibited and a violation of state law.

## Improvements to Route 1&9T

To accommodate additional traffic, NJDOT plans to make a series of improvements to the Route 1&9T corridor from Route 1&9 to the Tonnele Circle.

- A series of signals along the corridor will be replaced with adaptive signal control technology to reduce or increase green time of each signal phase based on real-time traffic information at each intersection.
- The traffic signals will be optimized to favor the northbound direction.
- The ramp from Route 1&9 to Route 1&9T will be widened from one to two lanes to accommodate the diverted Pulaski northbound traffic.
- Minor geometric changes will be made at Communipaw and Newark Avenues to enhance traffic flow on Route 1 & 9T.

## Highway ITS/Traveler Information

NJDOT is working with its partners to develop efficient and effective communication strategies to keep the public informed during the lane closures. The Department is planning to deploy approximately 40 additional Variable Message Signs (VMS) at key decision points for drivers. The signs will provide motorists with travel times to on diversion area routes. Commuters

can also find construction updates, travel information, as well as links to other agencies and organizations for additional travel information on [pulaskiskway.com](http://pulaskiskway.com).

The 511NJ website will be the main source for travel information, travel times and advisories. The 511NJ phone service will also provide project and travel-related information for callers.



Real-time travel times

## Transit Mitigation Strategies

To meet anticipated demand, transit strategies to be implemented include:

- **NJ TRANSIT service enhancements on the Morris & Essex (M&E) Line** - Additional morning trains along this line to Hoboken (with connections to Jersey City and NYC) will be added to increase ridership capacity.
- **NJ TRANSIT service enhancements on the Raritan Valley Line** - Coaches will be added in the morning and afternoon peak periods.
- **NJ TRANSIT new express bus service on the Route 22 corridor** - Additional bus service along this corridor to provide connections to PATH or rail at Newark Penn Station. This route will provide access to Jersey City and NYC without adding to traffic on I-78/ NB-HCE.



Tow trucks will help clear incidents efficiently

- **Enhanced service on PATH from Newark to World Trade Center.**

NJDOT will inform the public about transit options that will be available to them.

### Incident Management

The TMP Task Force is working to develop strategies that aim to identify and clear incidents as quickly as possible when they occur on the Skyway and on the major

roads expected to handle diverted Skyway traffic. To more easily locate an incident, the Department will be installing cameras to allow first responders to see the full length of the Skyway, mile markers to help motorists better identify and communicate their location and a Response Grid Map to help first responders identify the location of an incident. The plan also calls for on-site tow trucks to clear incidents as efficiently as possible.

## Highway and Transit Capacity Improvements



## How THE SKYWAY GOT ITS NAME

The Pulaski Skyway is named after Kazimierz Michał Wacław Wiktor Pułaski, who was born into a prominent Warsaw, Poland family in 1745. Casimir Pulaski would become one of the central figures in the American War of Independence, serving as a general in the Continental Army and creating the Pulaski Cavalry Legion.

In 1762, Casimir Pulaski began his military career as a page of the Duke of Courland. Fifteen years later, Benjamin Franklin and Marquis de Lafayette recruited Pulaski for service in the American Revolutionary War.

Shortly after his arrival in America in 1777, Pulaski was named a brigadier general in the Continental Army cavalry. He was given the special title of "Commander of the Horse," and was authorized to form a special corps known as the Pulaski Cavalry Legion. Due to the legion's high training standards, Continental Army General Charles Lee referred to Casimir Pulaski as the "Father of the American Cavalry."

Pulaski served in Little Egg Harbor, in New Jersey, where his legion suffered heavy losses. Following a subsequent assignment in Minisink, New Jersey General Washington ordered Pulaski to Charleston, South Carolina in 1779. On October 9, 1779, during a siege on Savannah, Pulaski led a cavalry charge and was shot and mortally wounded.

Later that month the United States Congress passed a resolution that built a monument in his honor. In 1929, Congress dedicated October 11 as "General Pulaski Memorial Day.

In 1933, the New Jersey Legislature honored Pulaski by naming a two-year-old bridge extension of U.S. Route 1 the General Casimir Pulaski Memorial Skyway.

## How do I Join a Vanpool?

Any employee who would like to carpool or vanpool should contact the TMA. The TMA will assist vanpoolers in the process of renting a van, mapping a route and receiving the available subsidies. All carpools and vanpools should be registered with the TMA to receive the Free Emergency Ride Home (FERH) and qualify for the Green Incentive Program.

By sharing your ride, you can cut your commuting costs and help reduce traffic and congestion. Vanpools are formed by commuters who live or work near each other and make the same trip on a regular basis. Vanpoolers can use drive time to read, email or listen to music - studies have shown that vanpoolers have less stress. It's a smart move!

To be matched for a vanpool, call 1-800-245-POOL or visit NJDOT's Ridematching website, or ridematching websites at Hudson TMA or Meadowlink/EZ Ride.

NJDOT - <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/commuter/rideshare/matchin.shtm>

Hudson TMA - [http://www.hudsontma.org/register/matchlist/form\\_registration.php](http://www.hudsontma.org/register/matchlist/form_registration.php)

Meadowlink/EZ Ride - <http://ezride.org/2-2-6-contact.asp>

At each link you will need to provide information about where you live, work, and basic commuting information such as days and times you work.



Check websites for updates and more info!

[www.pulaskiskyway.com](http://www.pulaskiskyway.com)  
[www.njtransit.com](http://www.njtransit.com)  
[www.hudsontma.org](http://www.hudsontma.org)  
[www.511nj.org](http://www.511nj.org)  
[www.ezride.org](http://www.ezride.org)

## For More Information

For more information on the Project contact:

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New Jersey Department of Transportation

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or visit the project website at:

[www.pulaskiskyway.com](http://www.pulaskiskyway.com)