



MONMOUTH COUNTY
Oceanic Bridge (S-31) Replacement Project
On Bingham Avenue - Locust Point Road (CR8A) over the Navesink River
Borough of Rumson and Township of Middletown, New Jersey
Local Preliminary Engineering Phase

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Public Information Center Meeting No. 1 - September 29, 2026

Why is this bridge replacement project taking so long?

This project is being funded using federal dollars and as such, the project must follow three design phases before construction can begin. It is a lengthy process of design reviews and permitting approvals. Given the required work involved in each phase, the construction phase is a minimum of 4 years out before it can begin. It's estimated to take at least three years to build the new bridge while continuing to operate the existing Oceanic Bridge. The specific dates for construction duration would be dependent on the bridge replacement improvements, which will continue to be developed through the current Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) phase and the next Final Design (FD) phase.

Why did the conceptual design change from two sidewalks over the bridge to one shared-use path on only one side of the bridge?

Instead of two separate 6-foot sidewalks, the new bridge will include one 14-foot shared-use path on the west side with a crashworthy barrier separating pedestrians from vehicle traffic. This proposed design modification is intended to better support shared pedestrian and bicycle use while maintaining a functional and balanced roadway section. The barrier-separated path provides an improved experience over the existing narrow sidewalk with no roadway shoulder or protection from traffic. This enhancement will provide an improved condition which pedestrians and bicyclists of all ages can appreciate.

In addition, the shared-use path on the west side of the bridge provides pedestrians and bicyclists with direct access to a 20-foot-wide promenade within the recreational area. Parking would be provided through parallel parking spaces along the promenade.

Why are there two roundabouts in the design on the Middletown side?

The Preferred Alternative at the Middletown approach now includes the provision of two roundabouts. These roundabouts were added to the Preferred Alternative to provide better traffic operations at both intersections, while improving safety for all approaches. Roundabouts reduce severe crashes, improve traffic flow, provide pedestrian crossings, and lower maintenance.

- The roundabout at the recreational area entrance allows vehicles to safely exit the area and better accommodates all turning movements than a traditional stop-controlled intersection.
- The roundabout at the Navesink River Road intersection provides for increased safety and reduces delay better than a signalized intersection. This roundabout also provides a visual gateway transition point for those crossing the Oceanic Bridge in either direction.



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When will construction begin and end?

The anticipated schedule dates for the start and completion of construction will be determined during the Final Design phase when the bridge replacement improvements are further developed.

Will the Oceanic bridge close during construction and will there be any detours?

The County and Project Team are aware of the importance of keeping the bridge open. During the construction of the new bridge, the existing bridge will remain in service. Detours will be kept to a minimum. More information will be determined during the Final Design phase when the design has been further developed.

What is the Project Schedule?

Local Concept Development (LCD) Phase	Completed 2023
Local Preliminary Engineering (LPE) Phase	Anticipated completion 2027
Final Design (FD) Phase	Anticipated start 2028
Construction Phase	Start to be determined in FD Phase

Who do we contact if we have any questions or comments?

Please contact:

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For additional information and FAQs visit the project website:
www.monmouthcountyoceanicbridge.com

To submit questions or comments via email to: MonmouthCountyOceanicBridge@gmail.com