



NJDOT TRAFFIC ADVISORY

For Immediate Release:
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Marsha Drive to be closed between Route 72 and East Bay Avenue on September 9 as work resumes in Stafford Work in Ship Bottom to resume on September 12

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) officials today announced Marsha Drive North, between Route 72 and East Bay Avenue, is scheduled to be closed starting on Monday, September 9 for several months, as the Route 72 Manahawkin Bay Bridges project resumes after the summer hiatus in Stafford, Ocean County. In addition, work on Long Beach Boulevard is scheduled to resume on Thursday, September 12, and work on 8th and 9th Streets is scheduled to resume on Monday, September 16.

Marsha Drive Closure, Monday, September 9

Beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, September 9, Marsha Drive North between Route 72 and East Bay Avenue is scheduled to be closed and detoured for several months. The closure is necessary to replace a 72-inch diameter culvert that runs under Marsha Drive. The Route 72 westbound jughandle for U-turns and access to Beach Haven West will remain open. Marsha Drive North between Route 72 and East Bay Avenue is expected to reopen in early 2025. The following detours will be in place beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, September 9:

Route 72 eastbound to Marsha Drive northbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on Route 72 eastbound will be directed to go through the traffic signal at Mill Creek Road and take the exit for Mill Creek Road North/Manahawkin Business District/U and Left Turns
- Stay right to cross Route 72
- Follow Mill Creek Road
- Turn right onto East Bay Boulevard

Route 72 westbound to Marsha Drive northbound detour:

- Motorists traveling on Route 72 westbound will be directed to take the Bay Avenue exit immediately after the bridge
- Turn left onto East Bay Avenue/CR 50

OR

- Motorists traveling on Route 72 westbound may continue on Route 72 westbound
- Turn right onto Mill Creek Road
- Turn right onto East Bay Boulevard

In late September, work is expected to restart on Route 72 at the Marsha Drive intersection to complete median improvements. NJDOT will provide advance notice of any lane closures or changes in roadway configuration.

Long Beach Boulevard work resumes Thursday, September 12

Beginning at 7 a.m. Thursday, September 12 until 3:30 p.m., and again on Friday, September 13 at the same times, work is expected to resume on Long Beach Boulevard with a lane closed for drainage work between 9th Street and 8th Street.

8th Street and 9th Street work resumes Monday, September 16

Beginning at 7 a.m. Monday, September 16, work on 8th Street is expected to resume with the right lane closed for drainage work beginning at Long Beach Boulevard and proceeding west to Shore Avenue.

Beginning at 8 p.m. Monday, September 16 until 6 a.m. Tuesday, September 17, and again on Tuesday, September 17 at the same times, work on 9th Street is expected to resume with lane closures for overnight drainage work near 9th Street Local (from Shore Avenue to 9th Street) and the U-turn from 8th Street to 9th Street.

This work is part of Contract 1A & 1B, of the Route 72/Manahawkin Bay Bridge project. This final construction contract is designed to improve safety and reduce congestion in Stafford at the Marsha Drive/Route 72 intersection and in Ship Bottom on Long Beach Island. In Stafford, Marsha Drive will be widened to provide double left turn lanes onto Route 72, and a third lane will be added on Route 72 in both directions near the intersection.

In Ship Bottom, approximately 3,000 feet of Route 72 (locally known as 8th and 9th Streets) and three cross streets (Barnegat Avenue, Central Avenue and Long Beach Boulevard) will be widened. Two-way traffic will be restored along Central Avenue and Long Beach Boulevard. Five traffic signals will be reconstructed, and a new traffic signal will be installed at the intersection of 8th Street and Long Beach Boulevard. In addition, a new storm drainage system and new outfalls will be installed in an effort to reduce frequent flooding along Route 72 and these intersections. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. For more information go to the NJDOT [project website](#).

The precise timing of the work is subject to change due to weather or other factors. Motorists are encouraged to check NJDOT's traffic information website www.511nj.org for construction updates and real-time travel information. For NJDOT news follow us on X (Twitter) [@NewJerseyDOT](#) and our [Facebook page](#).

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