



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0600

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

JAMIE FOX  
*Commissioner*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

October 14, 2015

Honorable John Moor  
Mayor, City of Asbury Park  
One Municipal Plaza  
Asbury Park, NJ 07712

Dear Mayor Moor:

We are in receipt of the resolution by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Asbury Park partially endorsing the improvements proposed by the Department as part of the Route 71, Main Avenue to Cedar Avenue pavement reconstruction project. The Department thanks you for your input and appreciate the concerns raised regarding possible impacts to the residents and businesses in Asbury Park.

With regard to the specific requests contained in the resolution:

The Department has crash data for Route 71 in Asbury Park from 2007 – 2013 that indicates an overrepresentation of vehicular and pedestrian accidents which supports the need for the road diet. However, due to the City's strong opposition, the Department will remove the road diet feature from the project and maintain the current traffic configuration of two lanes in each direction. The Department will provide the City with the crash data used for the initial recommendation of a road diet, as well as the most recent data which supports the retention of the road diet as a feature in the project.

The Department will install curb extensions at Bangs Avenue (MP 8.14), Summerfield Avenue (MP 8.19), Asbury Avenue (CR16) (MP 8.35), Third Avenue (MP 8.58), Fifth Avenue (MP 8.73), Sunset Avenue (MP 8.82), and Sixth Avenue (MP 8.90). These intersections were selected because of their pedestrian accident history. Curb extensions are not warranted at all intersections within the project limits.

Due to the width of the roadway, it is not feasible to install a dedicated bike lane. The Department will investigate the use of sharrows.

Traffic signals will be upgraded at all intersections along Route 71 in the City, along with the installation of ADA-compliant equipment, accessibility curbs and sidewalk.

The Department will replace the full width of any damaged sidewalk within the project limits. Funding for streetscape elements, such as enhanced concrete color and paving pattern, may be obtained by the City through the Federal Transportation Alternatives Program. Solicitation for applications is anticipated late 2015/early 2016. Also, grant funding through the state municipal aid program may be requested through an application.

The Department will coordinate with the City for the installation of a limited number of tree pits. We request that the City provide a conceptual plan for this installation.

The Department will replace the existing emergency response pre-emption system at Route 71 and Asbury Avenue.

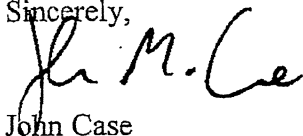
This section of Route 71 through Asbury Park does not rank on the Department's Drainage Management System as having a history of drainage issues. It is illegal for sump pumps to be connected to the State's Highway Drainage System. Developers/designers who are proposing the development of properties adjacent to State roads which require the connection of their drainage system to NJDOT drainage systems must comply with the NJDOT drainage standards and must submit a completed Drainage Permit Checklist for Access Projects in order to obtain a NJDOT Drainage Permit.

The Department will coordinate with the City regarding the installation of sanitary sewer facilities along Route 71. The installation will have to be performed by the State's contractor during the pavement reconstruction phase of the project. The Department will have to enter into a Utility Betterment Agreement with the City for the funding of the sanitary sewer installation.

As discussed at the August 1, 2015 Officials Briefing, as per Utility Accommodation policy and safety concerns, electrical wires owned by private utility companies and attached to the State's lighting facilities will be removed and placed on wooden poles. Metal poles owned by utility companies will be replaced with wooden poles.

I hope this adequately addresses your concerns. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Raymond Tomczak at (609) 530-2110.

Sincerely,



John Case  
Assistant Commissioner  
Government and Community Relations