

**Cape May County
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Public Information**

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NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Middle Thorofare Bridge Rehabilitation - Scheduled Roadway Closures

Lower Township - Construction on Ocean Drive (CR621) Bridge over Middle Thorofare (aka Two Mile Bridge) is well underway by contractor South State, Inc. of Bridgeton, NJ and motorists in the area will notice the old bridge railings being demolished when weaving through the single lane traffic pattern on the bridge. Upcoming next week is one of the more difficult phases of the project where the contractor will begin removal of the existing fender system along with removal of large rock around the base of the piers, termed "rip-rap". Beginning next Monday, December 14 at 9 p.m. the bridge roadway will be closed to vehicular traffic for several nights to permit the contractor to use equipment beneath the bridge requiring the bascule span (movable section) to be in the open position.

The nighttime bridge roadway closures will occur daily from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. on the following dates;

Monday, December 14th through Friday December 18th (inclusive)

Monday, December 21st through Wednesday December 23rd (inclusive)

Also beginning December 14th are navigational restrictions limiting bridge openings for larger vessels. These navigational restrictions are a result of the contractor having to

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occupy the channel beneath the bascule span to perform his work. Mariners are urged to review the weekly Local Notice to Mariners issued by the U.S. Coast Guard which may be found at www.navcen.uscg.gov . Mariners may also contact the bridge at 609-522-2815 or marine VHF Channel 13.

No roadway closures are scheduled over the Christmas Holidays, however the contractor is scheduled to begin fender piling installation in January 2021 requiring additional overnight roadway closures when working beneath the bascule span. Traveling motorists are kindly asked to be patient during this much needed construction project and allow extra time when commuting.

For Middle Thorofare Bridge construction updates please visit www.followthegull.com .