



Mayor Womack announces six-month completion for Route 130/Adams Lane project

Mayor Francis “Mac” Womack has been assured by the NJ Department of Transportation that construction associated with the Route 130/Adams Lane project will be, “substantially complete and fully open to traffic by the end of this calendar year.”

While some potentially minor site items and landscaping work will probably carry into early 2015, the primary road improvements will now be completed by the end of this year. Originally scheduled to be complete by this July, the project has fallen behind schedule and the Township learned that delays might extend construction through next summer. The Township found that unacceptable and appealed for aggressive revisions to the project timetable.

Mayor Womack thanked the NJDOT for responding to the Township’s concerns and committing to a six-month schedule. “Our residents and the travelling public patiently suffered for more than two years until the delays became intolerable. While we remain grateful that roadway conditions and traffic safety will ultimately be improved, this project needed to be formally accelerated,” he said.

In recent months, significant road work on the more than \$9.2 million federally funded project seemed to come to a virtual halt. The delays were almost entirely attributed to the absence of the utility companies which continued to divert a significant amount of resources to the shore area following Hurricane Sandy. Verizon finally relocated the last of their utility poles in June, allowing the project to once again move forward.

“We have been working at the highest levels of NJDOT to resolve these issues and try and move the Route 130 project forward,” said Director of Community Development Michael Hritz. “We enjoy a good working relationship and appreciate their responsiveness.”

Once complete, Route 130 will be widened at the intersection to three lanes in both directions and new turning lanes will be provided at each access point. Safety improvements also include the partial closing of the cross-highway opening at Wood Avenue and the conversion of the

high-speed merging lane from Old Georges Road onto Route 130 north to a 90-degree turning lane with a stop sign.

Lanes of traffic have recently been shifted along the highway to allow the final construction of the northbound lanes to begin. Once finished, lanes will shift again and the contractor will construct the new southbound lanes.