



The Delaware River and Bay Authority

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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DRBA Announces Completion of Freeman Highway Deck Work ***Second Phase of Freeman Highway Bridge Rehabilitation Project Begins June 28, 2010***

(*Lewes, DE*) On Saturday, June 26, 2010 at 7 a.m., both lanes of the Freeman Highway Bridge will be opened to traffic. The contractor, Mumford and Miller, will be removing the temporary concrete barriers and placing lane striping on Friday night, June 25, 2010 at 10 p.m. and will conclude its work by early Saturday morning, June 26, 2010.

Starting June 28, 2010, the work will shift to the underside of the Freeman Highway Bridge and continue through September 30, 2010. Work on the superstructure and substructure includes replacing bearings, miscellaneous steelwork repairs, cleaning and repainting the steelwork, repairing the concrete piers and abutments, replacing the slope paving, and completing utility work. At various times, the contractor will need to close the shoulders and/or shift the two lanes of Freeman Highway, but lane closures will not be needed.

“After Labor Day, some additional night work will be required to seal and grove the bridge deck,” DRBA Senior Engineer Joe Volk said. “In September, this deck work will require some night closures of Freeman Highway between 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.” Volk noted that the sealing and grooving application cannot be accomplished until the resurface concrete deck cures for at least 28 days.

Originally constructed about 45 years ago and last painted in 1978, the Freeman Highway Bridge needs to be cleaned, repainted, and rehabilitated. The concrete piers exhibit some deterioration and require repair work. Bridge parapets will be replaced and upgraded to current standards. The bridge expansion joints, approach slabs, and miscellaneous steelwork require rehabilitation as well. Freeman Highway guiderail requires replacement as well and will be done during the bridge rehabilitation.

The rehabilitation of Freeman Highway Bridge began on March 8, 2010 and is expected to be completed on September 30, 2010. The project work will be done by Mumford & Miller of Middletown, Delaware, at a cost of approximately \$1.8 million.

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