



Rt 3 & 46 UPDATE

Contributed by Denise Stone

For those of us who wonder and most of us do, what is the latest on construction project on Rte. 46 and Rte. 3?

As FSGN has many new residents, the following is some background taken from NJ.com and the NJ DOT website:

The purpose of the new road and bridges is to remove local traffic from the state highway. Construction of the first phase was contracted to start in 2015. That work was delayed until 2016 because plans had to be redesigned. The project is expected to be completed in fall 2022.

The estimated cost of this project will be over \$200 million in federal and state funds, with the project broken into two major contract phases (A and B).

According to NJ.com reporter Larry Higgs (Oct., 2017), the \$40.8 million federally-funded Contract A portion of the Interchange Improvements project, (started on-site in January 2016) includes the construction of:

1) a two-way service road parallel to Route 46 westbound called Great Notch Road.

2) three signalized intersections: two on Valley Rd and one at Great Notch/Clove Road intersection

3) two single-lane roundabouts:

a) a roundabout at the intersection of Lackawanna, Rifle Camp Road and Great Notch Road.

b) a roundabout at the top of Clove Road leading to Montclair University.

Local traffic from Rtes. 3/46 W. will exit at Valley Road and travel along the expanded Great Notch Road for access to Woodland Park. The FSGN Boulder Road exit will have access to the new Great Notch Road.

Contract A additionally includes: the relocation of major City of Newark and Passaic Valley Water Commission water mains along Rte. 46 W, a new flyover bridge over Rte. 46 connecting Clove Road to Notch Road, and reconstruction of the existing Upper Notch Road bridge.

Lackawanna Avenue has recently opened in both directions, making trips to Woodland Park from the back gate quite easy. The old Upper Notch overpass has been demolished and a new Upper Notch Bridge is under construction. The Lower Notch overpass provides access to and from Rte. 46 E/W and into Little Falls, about 1/2 mile from the back gate.

Once the roundabout at Rifle Camp Road and Lackawanna Avenue is completed, the present ramp from Rte. 46 W. to Lackawanna Ave. will be redesigned.

Progress on the new signalized intersection of Valley and the New Great Notch Road be seen as you head south from FSGN towards Montclair. Progress on the Clove Road flyover and the new Notch Road can be seen right below the FSGN property along Rte. 46 W. Exit ramps are being constructed on the Rte. 46 E. side in preparation for construction of the new bridge, which will be partially located in



the parking lot of the 6 Brothers Diner. The entrance and signage for the diner have already been relocated.

Additional construction in process, according to the NJDOT: two Third River culverts, (seen behind the Great Notch Inn parking lot), eight retaining walls, and the Four Season at Great Notch sound wall.

According to Higgs (Oct. 2017) final designs are being completed for Contract B. Contract B includes widening a section of Route 46, rebuilding exit ramps between Routes 46, Rt 3 and Valley Road, and installing a new traffic signal on Valley Road.



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