

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation is reconstructing the entrance ramp from Prospect Avenue southbound, Essex County Highway No. 577, to Interstate Route 280 eastbound, commonly known as Ramp 2P over Prospect Avenue northbound; and

WHEREAS, the reconstruction requires the closing of the ramp to traffic from Prospect Avenue southbound; and

WHEREAS, the ramp from Prospect Avenue northbound to Interstate Route 280 eastbound remains open; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation developed two detour routes to access Interstate Route 280 eastbound once Ramp 2P from Prospect Avenue southbound was closed; and

WHEREAS, both detour routes required motorists to access Interstate Route 280 eastbound from Pleasant Valley Way via either Interstate Route 280 westbound or State Highway No. 10 westbound from Prospect Avenue southbound; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation did not recommend a third detour route requiring a U-turn from Prospect Avenue southbound to Prospect Avenue northbound at the signalized intersection with Guerino Drive as the traffic signal timing at this intersection could not be modified sufficiently to accommodate the re-routed entrance ramp traffic from Prospect Avenue southbound; and

WHEREAS, Ramp 2P was closed to traffic from Prospect Avenue southbound during the week of January 18, 2016; and

WHEREAS, since the closing of Ramp 2P, a high volume of motorists are making the U-Turn from Prospect Avenue southbound to Prospect Avenue northbound at the signalized intersection with Guerino Drive instead of using either of the two posted detours; and

WHEREAS, the high volume of traffic making this U-Turn maneuver creates traffic congestion along Prospect Avenue southbound leading into the traffic signal with Guerino Drive delaying all motorists travelling south on Prospect Avenue as well as those who turn at the signalized intersection to access the Villas at Eagle Ridge, the Essex Green Shopping Center, the Courtyard by Marriott and the Executive Drive office complex; and

WHEREAS, the traffic making this U-Turn creates conflicts with motorists exiting the Villas at Eagle Ridge that desire to proceed north on Prospect Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Orange and the County of Essex during the reconstruction of Ramp 2P desire to eliminate the conflicts between vehicles performing the U-Turn and exiting the Villas at Eagle Ridge and want to reduce the congestion along Prospect Avenue southbound by prohibiting the U-Turn from Prospect Avenue southbound to Prospect Avenue northbound at the signalized intersection with Guerino Drive; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition of this U-Turn will require motorists to follow the two posted detour routes; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.3, Special Traffic Regulations, allows the governing body of any municipality to adopt a resolution declaring that an emergent or temporary condition dictates adoption of special traffic regulations for a period of effectiveness not in excess of 3 months; and

WHEREAS, the Township of West Orange Municipal Engineer finds such an emergent conditions exists and the Municipal Engineer recommends the U-Turn from Prospect Avenue southbound to Prospect Avenue northbound at the signalized intersection with Guerino Drive should be prohibited during the during of the reconstruction of Ramp 2P.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of West Orange that an emergent and temporary condition exists at the signalized intersection of Prospect Avenue and Guerino Drive resulting from the closure of the access ramp from Prospect Avenue southbound to Interstate Route 280 eastbound that creates significant congestion along Prospect Avenue southbound leading into the signalized intersection with Guerino Drive and which also creates turning conflicts at this intersection.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that to eliminate the conflicts between motorists making the U-Turn at the signalized intersection of Prospect Avenue with Guerino from southbound to northbound and those exiting the Villas at Eagle Ridge and to reduce the congestion of traffic in the southbound direction leading into the signalized intersection resulting from the queue of motorists waiting to make the U-Turn, the Township Council of the Township of West Orange hereby amends and supplements Chapter 7, Traffic, Subsection 7-23.3, U-Turn Prohibitions to add "Intersection of Prospect Avenue and Guerino Drive" with the prohibited U-Turn movement "From Prospect Avenue southbound to Prospect Avenue northbound".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with N.J.S.A. 39:4-197.3, the period of effectiveness of this Special Traffic Regulation shall be 3 months unless extended by Resolution of the Township Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Certified Copy of this Resolution be sent to the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders for their consent.

Karen J. Carnevale, RMC
Municipal Clerk

Victor Cirilo, Council President

Adopted: February 23, 2016