



building the new **providence viaduct**

Frequently Asked Questions

Where will pedestrians be detoured during the overnight closures (Sunday to Thursday from midnight to 6 a.m.)?

Promenade Street pedestrians may be detoured onto Providence Place and vice versa. At times, both streets may be closed to install overhead bridge elements and pedestrians will be detoured to Smith Street by way of Holden Street and Park Street. Pedestrians on West Exchange Street may be detoured around the Dunkin Donuts Center using Sabin Street, Atwells Avenue and Bradford Street.

When will the sidewalks on Atwells Avenue at the end of the Atwells Avenue Exit from I-95 South be closed?

This work is not confirmed in the construction schedule yet, but we do not anticipate it will begin prior to Summer 2014. The work will be announced ahead of time in the monthly meetings forum, and also in the weekly public updates.

When will the bike lane on Promenade be closed?

Cyclists will be able to ride at all times except when there is a full road closure. These closures will take place Sunday to Thursday from midnight to 6 a.m. for certain construction operations. When there is a lane closure, cyclists will share the road with vehicular traffic. Police officers will be present to help cyclist, pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Lane closures are possible Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to midnight.

When will the sidewalks on Providence Place be closed?

Pedestrian access on Providence Place will be maintained at all times except during full road closures. When lanes are closed, police officers will be present to direct and assist pedestrians to the opposite side of the road. The Providence Place sidewalks will experience a minimal amount of closures over the next month to allow for various equipment setup, construction access and material deliveries.

When will the sidewalks be closed on West Exchange Street?

Pedestrian access on West Exchange Street will be maintained at all times except during full road closures. When lanes are closed, police officers will be present to direct and assist pedestrians to the opposite side of the road.

How will RIDOT meet the environmental requirements of the project?

RIDOT has hired an environmental scientist to monitor all construction activities to ensure compliance with environmental permits and protect the environment. The scientists will be in constant contact with the RIDOT team to make any corrections if necessary.



building the new **providence viaduct**

Frequently Asked Questions

What will be the impacts to the Woonasquatucket River during construction?

The contractor will have to install sheeting along the river bank to construct Pier 6 of the new I-95 Southbound bridge and Pier 5 of the Providence Place Mall exit. Temporary enclosures will also be built in the river to aid the construction of the drainage structures.

How will the river be protected during construction?

Erosion control will be employed throughout the project, particularly to protect the river. Pre- and post-construction surveys will be conducted, and any impacts to the river will be remedied completely. No work affecting the river will take place during fish runs from March 15 to June 15.

When will the temporary Providence Place Mall exit open to traffic?

Late Fall 2013.

When will the permanent Providence Place Mall exit be opened to traffic and the temporary mall exit be demolished?

Spring 2015.

When will the wall facing the Foundry be given its final look?

Spring 2015.

How often will one lane be taken on city streets (Promenade, Providence Place, West Exchange Street, and Atwells Avenue)?

Intermittently throughout construction, June 2013 thru November 2015.

Is landscaping being incorporated into the project, and at what locations?

Landscaping will be included on the slope facing the Foundry, on the slope facing the old Saints & Sinners bar, within the Dunkin Donuts Center interchange, and on the Providence Place side of the river.

How wide will the lanes on I-95 be, and how wide will the new ramps be?

The existing I-95 northbound and southbound have 11-foot lanes and 6-inch shoulders. The new bridges will have 12-foot lanes and minimum 4-foot shoulders. All ramps will be widened between 1 and 2 feet.



building the new **providence viaduct**

Frequently Asked Questions

What measures does RIDOT have in place to ensure existing buildings and properties within the project area are protected from construction-related damages, i.e. settling, cracking, etc.?

RIDOT is planning to use high-frequency vibrating hammers to minimize the likelihood of damage to adjacent structures and buildings. Also, elaborate contract requirements — such as pre- and post-construction surveys, instrumentation and monitoring techniques (seismographs and surveying vertical/horizontal monitoring points on a weekly basis for construction-related movement) — will be put in to effect to protect the public. The pre- and post-construction surveys will be available for public viewing by scheduling an appointment at the RIDOT field office, located at 33 Acorn St., Suite 102, Providence.

Why do you have to drive piles at night at the Atwells Avenue Exit?

Because some of the pile driving is close to traffic, some of the work needs to be done after midnight with the Atwells Avenue exit closed. The schedule is not confirmed yet, but it is not anticipated until Summer of 2014. The work will be announced ahead of time in the monthly meetings forum, and also in the weekly public updates.

Why are complete roadway closures necessary for the streets and ramps below the Viaduct?

The full road closures are mainly needed to move and place steel beams on the sections of the new bridge spanning ramps and streets, but also for other general construction operations.

Why does the demolition of portions of the existing Atwells Avenue Exit take so long? (Summer 2013 through the first half of 2014)

The construction phasing of this portion of the project is somewhat complex. There are many steps and sub-phases through the duration of Phase 1, which runs from 2013 through December of 2015.

What kind of soil will the bridge be built on?

The area was a cove of Narragansett Bay in the 1500s that was filled in over the centuries. Below the fill material (15-30 feet thick) are many layers of sand and silt (approximately 70-90 feet thick), which are smaller grained soils. Below those layers is a thin layer of gravel, and finally bedrock.