

Clarksville Road Bridge Update May 29, 2026

On Thursday, May 28, I had the opportunity to discuss the Clarksville Road bridge situation with Governor Mikie Sherrill, NJDOT Commissioner Priya Jain, and NJ Transit CEO Kris Kolluri.

Going forward, updates will focus on two parallel efforts:

1. **Reopening the existing bridge**
2. **Constructing a permanent replacement bridge**

Reopening the Existing Bridge

NJDOT continues to advance the coordinated design, safety, and construction efforts associated with the Clarksville Road bridge closure and structural repair project.

Since the previous update, significant progress has been made across several critical project components, including final design approvals, safety planning, agency coordination, and steel fabrication activities necessary to support the repair work.

A major milestone was reached on May 22, when NJDOT formally approved and signed the final structural repair plans. With the design phase complete, the contractor, Buchart Horn, has continued preparing the Site-Specific Safety Work Plan (SSSWP), which is required for construction activities within and adjacent to the railroad corridor. The SSSWP is expected to be completed by the end of next week.

As part of the safety planning process, Buchart Horn is also evaluating interim traffic signal configurations and traffic control measures needed to safely manage vehicle flow during construction. These efforts are being coordinated closely with NJDOT.

Once the SSSWP is finalized, NJDOT and the contractor will formally submit it to Amtrak for review and coordination. Amtrak's review remains a critical component of the project schedule due to the bridge's proximity to active rail infrastructure.

Construction-related work is also moving forward. On May 18, 2026, a fabrication crew mobilized on-site to begin field fabrication of the structural steel components required for the repairs.

NJDOT will continue working closely with the design team and contractor as the project advances toward construction implementation.

Bottom line: We remain on schedule to reopen the bridge with **one lane of traffic, controlled by a traffic signal, before the end of this year.** State agencies and project partners are doing everything possible to accelerate the timeline.

Permanent Replacement Bridge

NJDOT has already selected a design firm from among the many proposals received to develop the permanent replacement bridge. Work on this effort is also proceeding on an emergency basis.

At this stage, it is still too early to provide a timeline for the completion of the permanent replacement, but planning and design work are actively underway.

We will continue to share updates as additional information becomes available.

Mayor Hemant Marathe