

General Project Information for Reconstruction of River Road (CR 567)

TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH, SOMERSET COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Background

River Road (CR 567) is located in the Township of Hillsborough in Somerset County. It is a north-south Urban Major Collector extending from Amwell Road at the south to Pleasant Run Road at the north, ultimately providing access to US Route 202. This project includes approximately 625 linear feet of roadway improvements along the section of River Road that begins approximately 100-feet north of the intersection with Elm and Mill Streets and extends north 625 feet. The roadway is one lane in each direction and generally bounded by the South Branch Raritan River to the west and undeveloped wooded areas to the east. There are no residential or commercial uses within the project area. The existing pavement width is 22 ft. (2 x 11-foot lanes) with no shoulders or sidewalks.



Image Source: Google

Proposed Improvements

River Road will be widened from 22-foot to 28-foot in total width, reconstructing most of the pavement within the project limits. A retaining wall will be constructed along the southbound lane to alleviate embankment erosion issues between the road and the South Branch Raritan River. Additional improvements include a new 4-foot wide berm along the wall, replacement of guide rail, fencing along portions of the new wall, drainage improvements, new pipe outfalls and erosion protection measures at the river. The proposed improvements to widen lanes, add a new berm and replace guide rail will enhance roadway safety. The addition of a retaining wall at the river in conjunction with the reconstruction of the roadway pavement will combine to improve the long-term stability of this section of River Road.

Project Needs

The existing roadway width is substandard, and the pavement is in poor condition due to the ongoing erosion along the South Branch Raritan River. The proposed retaining wall is required due to the instability of the existing slope along the river.



The slope instability has required past pavement repairs and contributes to the poor pavement condition. Temporary repairs made in recent years include replacement to sections of guide rail and the reconstruction of the pavement along the southbound lane. These temporary repairs have allowed the road to remain in use by the traveling public until more extensive permanent improvements can be made to alleviate the ongoing erosion issues along the river.

Utilities

Aerial utility lines in the vicinity of the existing Norfolk Southern Railroad Bridge will be relocated underground and existing poles will be removed.

ROW/Easements

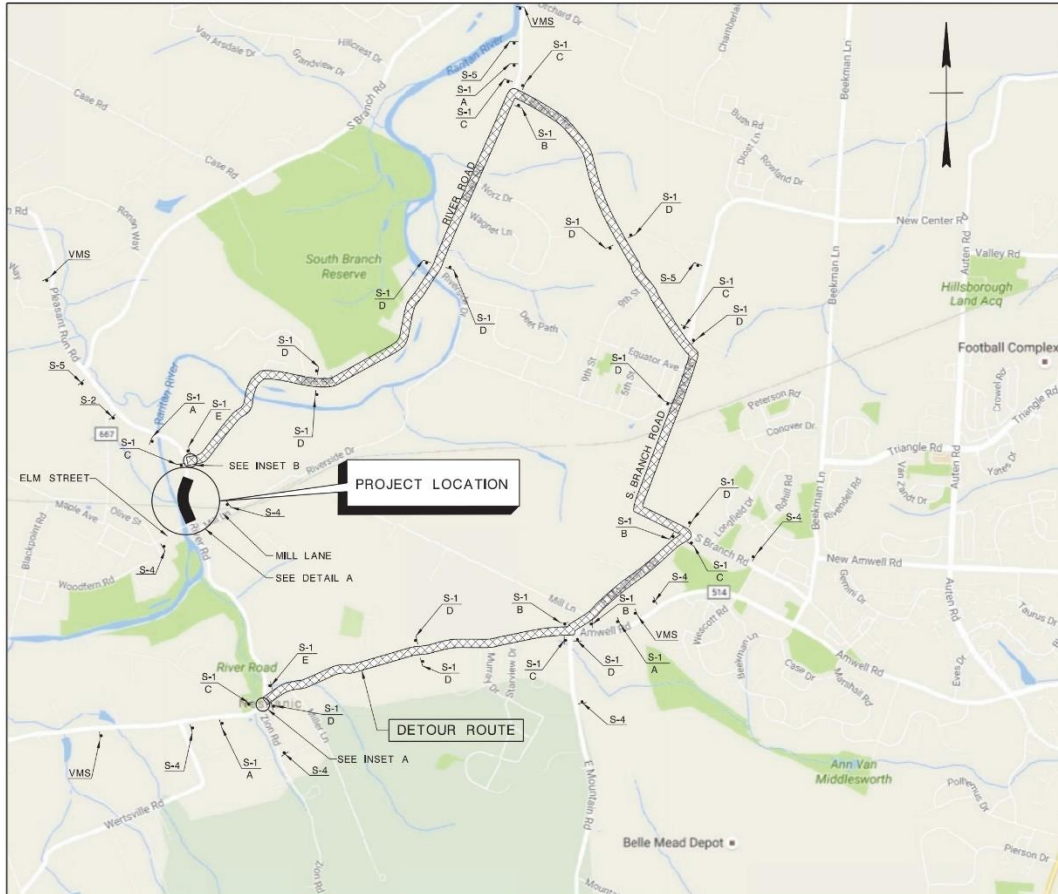
Work will take place within the existing County right-of-way. No new easements or takings are required for this project.

Traffic Data

- 2018 ADT (2-way) = 2868 Vehicles.
- Urban Major Collector, Posted Speed 40 MPH

Detour Plan

Construction is proposed to be completed through the use of a full road closure and detour. The proposed detour uses River Road, South Branch Road and Amwell Road.



Permits

The following permits have been obtained for the project:

- NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands General Permit
- NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Permit
- NJDEP Historic Preservation, Project Authorization
- Somerset Union Soil Conservation District
- NJPDES 5G3

Project Schedule

It is anticipated that the project will commence in spring, 2024 with the project completion in December 2024.

Construction Announcement

The project's construction contract was awarded in the amount of \$2,686,251 to Sparwick Contracting, Inc on Thursday, November 9, 2023. Construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2024.