

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Rhode Island Department of Transportation

Volume 1 - January 2018

## RIDOT AWARDS CONTRACT FOR 6-10 INTERCHANGE

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) signed a contract today with 6/10 Constructors, a design-build team composed of companies with deep Rhode Island and New England roots. The contract will rebuild the 6-10 Interchange in Providence, a \$410 million project that has been on the drawing board for 30 years as its network of bridges fell into a state of structural deficiency.

The contract with 6/10 Constructors - which includes Barletta Heavy Division, O&G Industries, DW White Construction, and Aetna Bridge Company - was awarded based on the high score of their technical and financial proposals. Bidding teams were given base technical criteria to meet but were allowed to satisfy these goals with their own unique solutions.

The result of this approach is a more innovative and cost-effective approach for rebuilding the 6-10 Interchange. The 6/10 Constructors had both the highest scoring technical proposal and the lowest bid price with a construction cost estimate of \$248 million. It is the largest single contract awarded by RIDOT.

"Our RhodeWorks initiative is putting Rhode Islanders to work fixing our roads and bridges. Since 2015, we've created thousands of construction jobs across the state, which means Rhode Island tradesmen and women are back on the job," said Governor Gina M. Raimondo. "Fixing the bridges on the 6-10 Interchange and improving the traffic pattern will ensure that Rhode Island drivers are safe and will add to our quality of life. I look forward to hosting a project commencement ceremony early next year."

The winning team produced a proposal that will reduce the impact on traffic by rerouting and phasing the traffic throughout the project to ease the impact of construction on streets and neighborhoods. It includes innovative accelerated bridge construction methods similar to those used for recent "over the weekend" bridge replacements RIDOT has done. The design also provides permanent solutions to traffic and congestion that exist now.

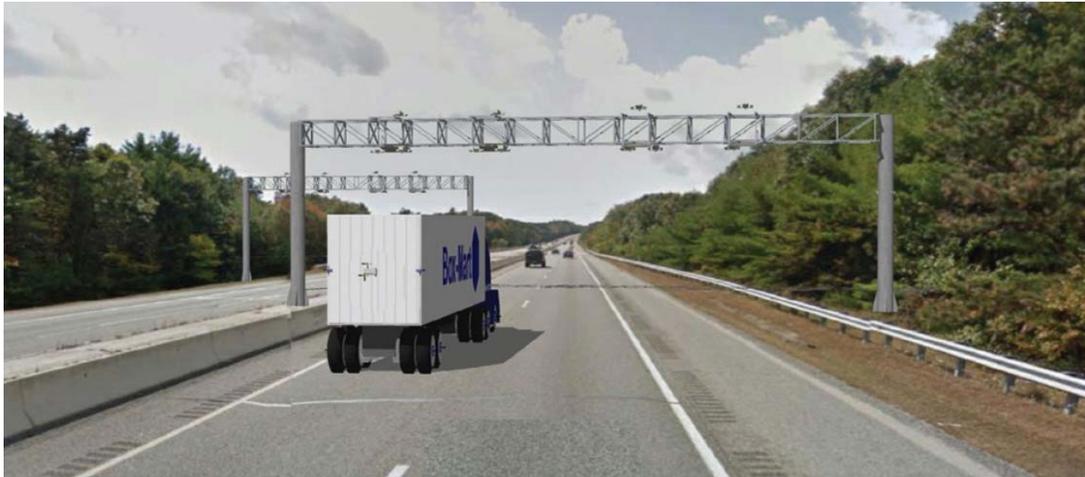
Approximately 20 percent of the design has been completed. RIDOT expects the design to be ready in one year, and during that time RIDOT, working with the Federal Highway Administration, will conduct the National Environmental Policy Act process for this project. Following this work, construction is expected to start. The project is scheduled for completion in Fall of 2023.



*RIDOT Director Peter Alviti appears each week on WPRO to discuss RIDOT's work to rebuild Rhode Island's Infrastructure and take calls from listeners. In 2017, that resulted in 42 shows; addressing over 280 questions and concerns from stakeholders.*

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## **RIDOT RECEIVED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON TOLLING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR FIRST TOLL LOCATIONS**

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) this week received notification from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) that the Environmental Assessment process has been concluded for the first two locations for all-electronic truck-only tolling to be built along I-95 in southern Rhode Island.

The FHWA determined that the implementation of the proposed action would not have a significant impact on the human environment and signed a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Environmental Assessment, conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). RIDOT will direct its tolling contractor to begin final design of the tolling gantries and associated technology. Construction of the gantries themselves is expected to take place in January, with a period of testing to follow. RIDOT anticipates revenue collection to begin by late February, but only go live with the system when the tolling contractor has certified that all systems are working properly.

Toll Locations 1 and 2 are both located along Interstate 95 (I-95) in the southwestern part of Rhode Island. Each toll location functions independently of one another and is associated with the reconstruction or replacement of specific bridges in accordance with the Rhode Island Bridge Replacement, Reconstruction, and Maintenance Fund state law known as RhodeWorks and consistent with requirements set forth in 23 C.F.R 129.

The bridges at Locations 1 and 2 are the Wood River Valley Bridge, the northbound and southbound Tefft Hill Trail Bridges, and the Baker Pines Bridge. The proposed toll systems at Toll Locations 1 and 2 will be used to collect toll revenues from tractor or truck tractors, pulling a trailer or trailers as defined in 23 C.F.R. 658.5, and as defined in the Rhode Island Bridge Replacement, Reconstruction and Maintenance Fund, also known as the RhodeWorks legislation.

## RIDOT: CHANGING SIGNS AND CHANGING MINDS



## RIDOT OPENS NORTH SMITHFIELD CENTRAL STREET BRIDGE SIX MONTHS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

The Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) opened the Central Street Bridge in North Smithfield six months ahead of schedule and on budget. The Central Street Bridge carries local traffic on Route 5 over Route 146. The project cost \$7.7 million, eighty percent of which was federally funded.

"RIDOT now uses an industry best-practice project management approach for all its projects, a decision that keeps scoring victories for taxpayers," RIDOT Director Peter Alviti, Jr. said. "Our new way of doing business quickly, minimizing Traffic delays and saving money."

## NEWMAN AVENUE BRIDGE OPENS

Governor Gina Raimondo and the Rhode Island Department of Transportation hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the reopening of the Newman Avenue Bridge on December 15, 2017. Reconstruction of the second half of the bridge is scheduled to continue into the 2018 construction season. This will be followed by resurfacing approximately ¼ mile of Newman Avenue on either side of the new structure.

The structurally-deficient Newman Avenue Bridge, built in 1934, carries approximately 9,000 vehicles per day on Newman Avenue over the Ten Mile River. Through a \$4.7 million, two-year construction contract with John Rocchio Corporation, the Department is replacing the bridge using conventional construction methods. The replacement of the Newman Avenue Bridge was made possible by RhodeWorks, RIDOT's ongoing commitment to repair structurally deficient bridges and bring Rhode Island's transportation infrastructure into a state of good repair, promote economic development, and create jobs. Learn more at [www.ridot.net/RhodeWorks](http://www.ridot.net/RhodeWorks).

## SMITH STREET RESURFACING MARKS LATEST RHODEWORKS ACCOMPLISHMENT

Work on the \$4.2 million Smith Street Improvement Project began in April, addressing 1.6 miles of the roadway from Academy Avenue to Holden Street. In addition to resurfacing, RIDOT also installed new sidewalks, brought existing sidewalks into Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, made minor drainage improvements, and modified three existing traffic signals, adding improved pedestrian crossing features. The project also will include new street trees, to be installed this coming spring.

The Smith Street improvement project is made possible by RhodeWorks, RIDOT's ongoing commitment to repair structurally deficient

Rhode Island Department of Transportation Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS)		
Comparison as of 12/31/2017		
Year	2017	2016
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>51</b>
Motor Vehicle Occupants	49	31
Pedestrians	21	14
Motorcyclists	11	4
Bicyclists	2	2
ATV	0	0
Person on Personal Conveyance	0	0
Unknown Person Type	1	0

Total Fatalities increased from 2016 to 2017 by 65%  
Note: Data is preliminary

## Rhode Island Department of Transportation Government Affairs Office

### Resources available:

- Providing accurate and up-to-date project information
- Provide liaison services to elected officials. Providing access and solutions.
- Transportation professionals for meetings.
- Budget information
- Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) information
- Works with Executive Staff to develop legislative agenda



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## 2017 RHODEWORKS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In fiscal 2017 (end date October 31) RIDOT advertised 30 projects, had 16 in construction and completed one for a total of 47 projects and \$284M pumped into Rhode Island's economy.

- Set to implement tractor trailer ONLY tolling
- TIGER grant - \$13.1M with a total budget of \$40M Pawtucket/Central Falls Train Station
- Second successful ferry season
- Added 40 new positions in Maintenance & \$26 million in new fleet
- Replaced Tefft Hill Trail Bridges in 36 hours
- Held Expo on autonomous vehicles
- Cleaned and inspected 7,200 catch basins
- Travel Time message boards with Waze and saved \$200,000.
- Replaced Capron Road Bridge in less than 9 months
- 2 New Bike Path segments on Blackstone River Bikeway
- Renumbering of I-295 in RI
- Repaved North and South Main Streets in Providence with ADA compliant
- Repaved and repaired drainage systems on High Street
- Started demolition of Old Sakonnet River Bridge
- Resurfaced Route 44, Smith Street in Providence
- Repaved section of I-95 in Providence north of Exit 16
- Won the regional America's Transportation Award for RhodeWorks
- Replaced the Pawtucket Avenue Bridge – 5 weeks ahead of schedule
- Replaced Mussey Brook Bridge
- Completed ADA Improvements on East Main Road in Portsmouth
- Built a new 23,000 square foot Maintenance Facility in Portsmouth
- Provided preventive maintenance to three Providence Area Interstate Bridges
- Replaced SD Central Street Bridge in North Smithfield
- Unveiled plans for a reconfiguration of the Pell Bridge Ramps