



The Goethals Bridge Replacement Project Update

Goethals Bridge Replacement Project Records Goethals Bridge History

Built in 1928, the original Goethals Bridge is being replaced by a structure more suitable to modern transportation, but it will not be forgotten. The bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, will be immortalized by The Port Authority of NY & NJ in a special memorial book and film.

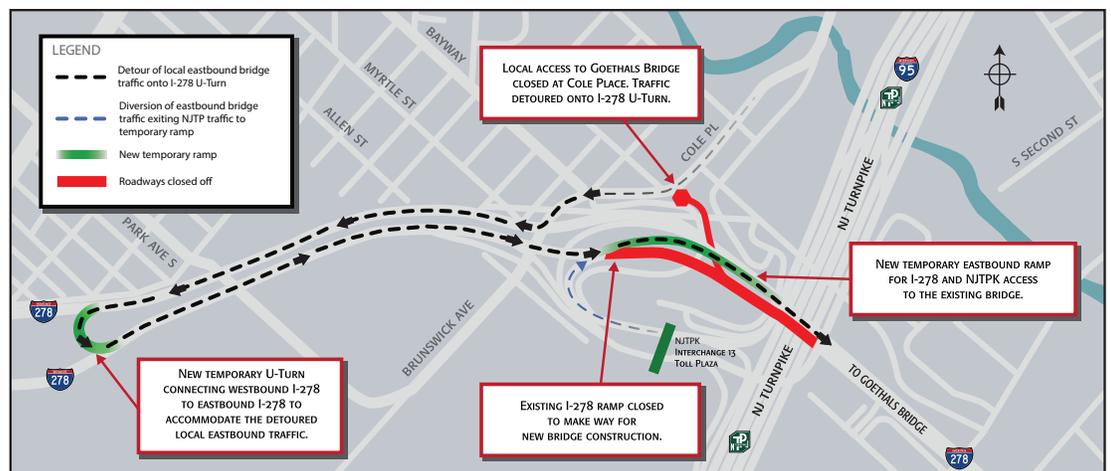
“Both will document the historic significance of the original bridge,” says Stefan Armington, Environmental Manager on the Goethals Bridge Replacement Project (GBRP). “They will also discuss why and how it was built, as well as the circumstances surrounding its construction.”

He adds that “the documentary film will touch on the building of the new bridge.”

Most important is that a historical record of the 1928 Goethals Bridge is being created. Documents and photos of the original bridge and its construction will be housed in the New York/New Jersey Department of Archives.

Smooth Access Change for Staten Island-bound Traffic

Since May 2015, motorists have been traveling along the new eastbound traffic pattern that will remain in place for the next two years. Vehicles exiting the New Jersey Turnpike at Interchange 13, and those on I-278 will continue to divert onto a temporary ramp leading to the Staten Island-bound Goethals Bridge. Local traffic using the ramp at Cole Place in Elizabeth, NJ, continues to detour westbound to I-278 and then follows a U-turn that connects I-278 eastbound to the new approach ramp.





Rush hour on the Goethals Bridge
(Photo circa 1930)



In 1964, a new toll plaza and
administration building was
constructed in Staten Island



View of the New York main span tower

Face of the Goethals Bridge Replacement Project: Casimir Bognacki

Concrete Construction magazine calls Casimir (“Cas”) Bognacki, Chief of Materials Engineering at The Port Authority of NY & NJ, one of the industry’s “Most Influential People.” And when it comes to concrete and the GBRP, he is.

A 32-year veteran of the Port Authority, Cas is “Brooklyn born and bred.” He graduated from Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute (now part of New York University) and joined the Port Authority in 1983 as a geotechnical engineer in the materials engineering unit, where he was assigned to the concrete and asphalt group. Cas has been widely recognized for his work, particularly in defining acceptance standards for concrete on such nationally important Port Authority projects as the World Trade Center construction and the complete reconstruction of a JFK Airport runway.

Cas oversees concrete pours at what is expected to be the region’s first completed cable stayed bridge. Placing concrete in the metro area, he says, is complicated, especially during the winter season.

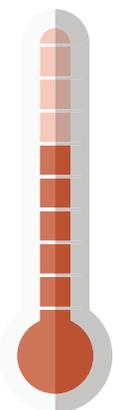
“Environmental temperatures, the temperature of the concrete in the mixer, and in the forms into which it is poured is critical. Heat matters, especially in winter when it’s vitally important to elevate the temperature of the concrete in the mixer and insulate the forms holding the concrete,” Cas explains. “If the environmental temperature is 20 degrees, the concrete needs to be delivered at 60 degrees. You have to warm up both the water and the aggregate. You insulate the forms and try to retain the heat the concrete needs to gain strength. Otherwise, when it gets into the 30s or lower, the concrete takes longer to strengthen and can even become dormant.”



“What I find so interesting about the Goethals Bridge Replacement Project is that I work with people from all over the world to build this new bridge and that we are placing concrete to last 150 years.”

— Cas Bognacki

Milestones



- Late 2018** Project complete - including demolition of existing bridge
- Early 2018** Construction substantially complete
- End of 2016** Service on southern structure begins
- May 2014** NTP2* - Permanent construction began
- Feb 2014** NTP1* - Design began
- Nov 2013** Financial close
- May 2013** Successful proposer appointed (Developer-NYNJ Link)
- Apr 2013** Project authorized

* Notice to Proceed

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