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Official News Release
For Immediate Release



**FREEHOLDERS ANNOUNCE PUBLIC INFORMATION
CENTER ON HOWARD BLVD TRAFFIC SAFETY STUDY**
THURSDAY SEPT. 5, 6-8 P.M.

The Morris County Board of Freeholders and Assemblyman Anthony Bucco, in cooperation with Mount Arlington Borough and Roxbury Township, announce that a Public Information Center will be set up on Thursday, **Sept. 5, in Mt. Arlington** regarding the Howard Boulevard Traffic Safety Improvement Study.

Interested residents will be able to review data that has been collected by the county's consultant, Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, and are encouraged to ask questions and discuss any concerns with the consultant's representatives or county and municipal officials.

There also will be a brief presentation on the consultant's initial findings regarding the section of Howard Boulevard (County Route 615) from Season Drive to the I-80 eastbound off-ramp.

"We intend to keep our promise to see what can be done to make this road safer for motorists and pedestrians," **Freeholder Director Doug Cabana**. "We encourage interested residents to attend the Sept. 5 public session."

"I am pleased to see the county continuing to move forward to address the safety issues in this heavily trafficked area. I will continue to lend assistance with the NJDOT when needed to make these improvements," said 25th District **Assemblyman Anthony Bucco**.

Howard Boulevard Public Information Center Number 1

Date: Thursday Sept. 5

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Place: Mount Arlington Public School, 235 Howard Boulevard, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856

If you are unable to attend but are interested in learning about this project, please call 973.285.6750 or email ddellagiacoma@co.morris.nj.us.



Asm. Anthony Bucco

The freeholders in late January, in conjunction with Mt. Arlington and Assemblyman Anthony Bucco, announced the county would undertake a thorough review of this section of Howard Boulevard, which carries heavy traffic to and from the Lake Hopatcong area to Routes 80, 46 and 10.

In April, the freeholders awarded a contract to **Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson**, a Trenton-based engineering firm, to conduct a traffic safety and improvement study.

The portion of road being considered for safety upgrades runs from Seasons Drive to the I-80 eastbound ramp and NJ Transit rail station driveway, very close to the Roxbury border.

As part of this project, the consultant is collecting data, including an analysis of crash/accident history, travel patterns, weekday and weekend traffic counts, and speed limit patterns. They also are making first-hand observations of driving patterns and motorists' behavior.

The consultant was tasked with working up a series of conceptual and viable short- and long-term safety enhancements.

There are three signalized intersections and several driveways within the study area. Each of the signals are owned and maintained by the state Department of Transportation, while Howard Boulevard is under county jurisdiction.

The state Department of Transportation currently is in the preliminary design stage for the replacement of the I-80 overpass at Howard Boulevard, which would include improvements to on and off ramps, plus traffic signal modifications. However, the engineering phase is expected to take another couple of years, with NJ DOT not anticipating a construction contract award until at least 2022.

The county's project would include three public meetings: the first to introduce the consultant to the municipality and allow residents to discuss the project, the second to present collected data, recommendations, and concept plans; and the third to present the preferred plan.

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