



Indian River Inlet Bridge Timeline



Roadway Approaches

Timeline: 2006-2011

The current traffic pattern will be in effect until the new bridge is opened (anticipated in late 2010).

The roadway approach work includes construction of the retaining walls, roadway embankments for the new bridge, drainage and stormwater facilities and the construction of the wetland mitigation sites at Fresh Ponds (located about 2 miles south of the Inlet). Work will continue on the first phase of the retaining walls and placing the embankment material until the end of 2006.



New Bridge Replacement

Timeline: 2007-2010

The new Indian River Inlet Bridge will be located slightly west of the existing bridge allowing construction activities to proceed with minimal impact to traffic. The new bridge is expected to have a 1,000 foot main span and will maintain a minimum vertical underclearance of 45 feet for navigational purposes. The new structure will carry two 12-foot travel lanes, 10-foot outside shoulders, and 4-foot inside shoulders in each direction over the inlet. Additionally, a 12-foot protected sidewalk will be included on the ocean side of the northbound lanes.



Park Enhancements

Timeline: 2008-2011

Delaware Seashore State Park, which is operated and maintained by the Delaware Department of Natural Resources (DNREC), encompasses both the north and south sides of the Indian River Inlet. Park enhancements will be a significant part of the Indian River Inlet construction project. Some of the park enhancements will include:

- Day-Use Facility Improvements
- Campsite Improvements, including Laundry Facility
- New and Enhanced Bathhouses
- Park Office
- Contact Stations
- Additional Recreational Areas
- New Lighting and Landscaping
- Handicap Access to New Bridge
- Addition of Cottages (Separate DNREC Contract)
- Marina Improvements (Separate DNREC Contract)



Old Bridge Demolition

Timeline: 2011

The bridge demolition will involve removing the entire structure down to the existing stream bed and will not occur until the new bridge is completed and opened.