

NJ Route 139 | Pulaski Skyway

Pulaski Skyway Reconstruction | Pulaski Skyway to the Holland Tunnel



Road Zipper Moves Traffic During Major Reconstruction

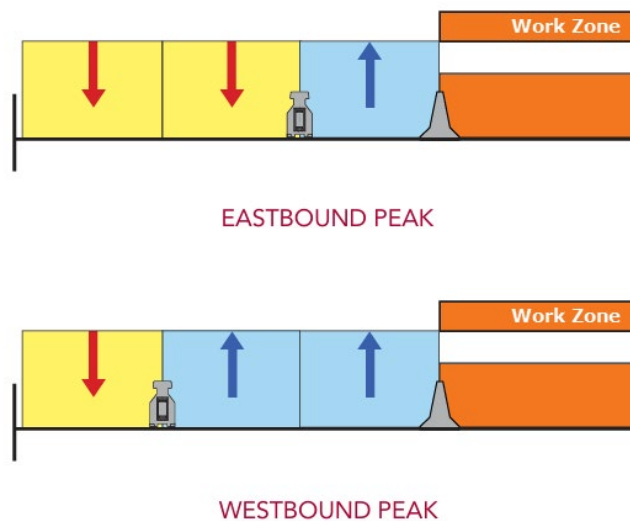
After serving the motoring public for 80 years, the Pulaski Skyway in New Jersey was ready for a full-scale face-lift and structural rehabilitation. This elevated highway carries an average of 74,000 vehicles per day between Newark and Jersey City, and it serves as an express link for cars and buses in and out of the Holland Tunnel. The scope of work for this \$1 billion project included replacing 3.5 miles of deck, rehabilitating ramps and steel structures, strengthening against seismic events, improving drainage and lighting, and finishing with a fresh coat of paint.

During Contracts 1 and 2 of the project, the designer AECOM and the New Jersey DOT determined that the most efficient way to maintain the level of service and protect workers and motorists was to use a moveable barrier. This continues to be accomplished by moving

the barriers twice daily in a 2/1, 1/2 lane configuration, which gives more lanes to peak traffic at all times while providing positive barrier separation.

Route 139 is a four-lane highway that travels through the Holland Tunnel and into Manhattan. To keep traffic flowing during the project, almost a mile of moveable barrier called the Road Zipper was installed so that peak traffic would still have two lanes in both directions. The 18" narrow RTS barrier provides TL-4 containment and minimal deflection when impacted.

Using this innovative lane configuration method, NJDOT is able to keep traffic flowing and help move the 40,000 vehicles per day that have been rerouted from the Skyway. This phase of construction is scheduled to be complete in 2016.



Project Highlights

- Rte 139 from New Jersey to the Holland Tunnel
- 4,760 ft of RTS-QMB barrier
- Prime contractor: Schiavone
- Moveable median provided a 1+2/2+1 traffic pattern
- First use of 18" RTS barrier for US construction due to high containment and low deflection
- Helped NJDOT to "shave years" from construction time compared to traditional staging options*
- Barrier wall transferred twice per day
- Barrier will be deployed for three years
- Part of \$1 billion project to rehabilitate the Pulaski Skyway

*NJDOT website