

# Office of the Governor

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Governor Reviews Progress of New A.C. Expressway Interchange**

Governor Christie Whitman today reviewed the progress of construction on the first all-new interchange in the history of the Atlantic City Expressway. Joined by area legislators and local officials, the Governor highlighted the need to maintain and adapt New Jersey's infrastructure to meet the demands of the public.

Located at Berlin-Cross Keys Road in Gloucester and Winslow Townships, the interchange is expected to increase motorist convenience and spur further economic development in this growing region of New Jersey. It is expected that the interchange will serve 13,000 cars daily.

"This project keeps us on the road to success here in South Jersey," said Governor Whitman. "This exchange will provide new access to the growing communities in the area, and it will be funded solely by tolls, with no state or federal funds."

"We've made transportation a priority. Our New Jersey First Program is a transportation vision for the 21st century," the Governor continued. "Working with legislators like those here today, I am proud of all we have achieved here in South Jersey and across our state--not just in transportation but in every area in which government can lend a hand."

Construction of the interchange began in August and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2000. The \$5 million project is part of a \$65 million capital improvement plan promised last year by the South Jersey Transportation Authority (SJTA), which operates the Expressway. The project is the first new, full interchange constructed on the Expressway since the toll road was completed in 1965.

Combined with upcoming new interchanges at Route 50 in Hamilton Township and Route 9 in the City of Pleasantville, and the widening of the Expressway near Atlantic City, the Berlin-Cross Keys interchange ushers in a new era of convenience and mobility for residents and visitors in South Jersey.

"For more than three decades the Expressway served South Jersey well as an engine for economic growth, but South Jersey's transportation needs have grown along with its economy," said SJTA Executive Director James A. Crawford. "It is time for the Expressway to adapt to the needs of a new South Jersey, and that's what this new interchange will do."

The interchange is being constructed in conjunction with a Camden County project to widen Berlin-Cross Keys Road, further enhancing the route as an important transportation corridor in the region.

