

## Office of the Governor

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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **GOVERNOR TO HIGHLIGHT NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS AT RTE. 3 BRIDGE OVER PASSAIC RIVER, JOIN FORCES WITH 'COALITION FOR A BETTER NEW JERSEY'**

Gov. Christie Whitman tomorrow will highlight the urgent need for investment in transportation and the improvement of the state's aging transportation infrastructure during a visit to the Route 3 bridge over the Passaic River in Rutherford Boro. The bridge is slated for replacement and improvements which can be funded only through the reauthorization of the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF).

Later in the day, the Governor will join members of the Coalition for a Better New Jersey to during a State House ceremony to discuss the urgent need for much-needed highway, bridge and public transit improvements and preservation of one million acres of open space in the Garden State over the next ten years. The coalition ardently supports the Governor's proposal to place a question on the November ballot and give voters the opportunity to support funding for transportation improvement and open space preservation projects.

In Rutherford, the Governor will highlight her "NJ First" proposal to reauthorize the TTF and invest \$30 billion in urgently- needed transportation improvements and expansions. NJ First will help repair New Jersey's crumbling roads and bridges, ease congestion and ensure safe and efficient transportation for New Jersey commuters.

Gov. Whitman will survey the existing bridge and surrounding intersection, highlighting the project as an example of the essential transportation improvements under NJ First that will ensure the safety of commuters and pedestrians and enhance overall quality of life. Her NJ First plan will help shore up existing infrastructure and support road and bridge improvements throughout Bergen County and throughout the state.

During the visit, the Governor will also discuss her plan to preserve and protect 300,000 acres of New Jersey's declining open space over the next four years, an effort to ensure the State's high quality of life for generations to come.