



**The Route 36 Highlands Bridge** project is the ongoing replacement of the existing Route 36 Bridge, a 1,240-ft long low-level movable bridge, with a mid-level fixed bridge. The new bridge replaces the existing movable double leaf bascule with a 65 foot high fixed structure that is being constructed with a slight shift in the alignment to the south at the channel but meets the existing alignment at the east and west abutments in Highlands and Sea Bright. The new bridge is approximately 1611 ft. long providing two twelve foot traffic lanes, one eight foot shoulder/bike lane and one eight foot sidewalk in each direction on the bridge. The width of the bridge is approximately 92'-3" wide and provides for a center median. The first half of the structure was opened to traffic on October 30, 2009 ahead of schedule. The demolition of the remaining portion of the existing bridge was completed in April 2010. The piers for the north half of the structure are being completed. The new structure will eliminate many existing substandard features of the old bridge and remove the vehicular and marine traffic conflicts that existed with the movable bridge. Improvements to both the eastern and western approaches to the bridge, new turn arounds within the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway Recreational Area and bicycle/pedestrian connectivity throughout the project limits are included in the project. New toll plazas were open summer 2009 and VMS signs are being used throughout the project to provide up to date information. Travel times are being displayed during the peak summer seasons to allow motorists to reroute if the Park is closed to traffic. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the Spring 2011.

**Ms. Lynne Baumann**  
**Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.**

Lynne Baumann is Senior Project Manager with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. For the past 10 years she has served as the Project Manger for Jacobs on the Rt. 36 Highlands Bridge and Rt. 7 Wittpenn Bridge Projects, both New Jersey Department of Transportation Projects. Lynne has been the manager on the Rt 36 Highlands Bridge project as it was progressed from the Feasibility Assessment Phase through the completed Environmental Assessment, through Preliminary and Final Design and now is in construction. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware and Masters Degree from Polytechnic Institute of New York. A registered professional engineer in New York and New Jersey, Lynne has spent majority of her 33 years designing and rehabilitating transit structures with particular emphasis on bridges.

**Pankesh Patel, P.E., PMP** is the project Manager of the Route 36 Highlands Bridge over Shrewsbury River for the NJDOT. He also manages Route 72 over Manahawkin Bay Bridges and Route 70 over Manasquan River. He has managed several other projects including the Route 295 Rigid Pavement improvements, Locke Avenue Bridge Replacement. He has over twenty-six years experience as a Civil Engineer while working in the public and private sectors in the United States and India. A twenty-two year veteran of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Mr. Patel is both a licensed Professional Engineer and Project Management Professional who has been responsible for the schedule, budget and quality of high priority, multi-disciplined transportation projects.

Pankesh has previously served the Department as Assistant to the Director of Capital Programming, Contract Manager, Deputy Project Manager, Project Coordinator and as a Resident Engineer on construction projects. Mr. Patel has obtained BSCE and M.S. in Engineering Management from NJIT. Mr. Patel's professional affiliations include the American Society of Highway Engineers.