

Cape May County
Rio Grande Avenue (CR661) Gateway Improvement Project
City of Wildwood, New Jersey



Project Information

Cape May County, the municipalities of Five Mile Beach and Greater Wildwoods Tourism Improvement and Development Authority are collectively interested in improving the Rio Grande Avenue entrance onto the island. Our goals for the project are to:

- **Reduce traffic congestion;**
- **Address left turn movements;**
- **Enhance pedestrian and bicycle usage;**
- **Alleviate frequent roadway flooding;**
- **Improving deficient existing drainage systems; and**
- **Enhance the appearance of the gateway.**



Traffic Improvements: The proposed design adds a center turn lane to facilitate left turns and improve movement along the corridor. The traffic signal at Hudson Avenue is being removed and the southern side of the intersection will become a dead end. At this location, a bus pullover will be created to move the stopping buses out of the travel way.

Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements: Large sidewalks are being proposed throughout the corridor to encourage pedestrian use as well as create space for ample streetscaping. The sidewalks, retaining walls, and border areas will be upgraded to fit the City aesthetic and create art on the street. Bike lanes will be added along the corridor to the West of Susquehanna Avenue. These will help bikes leave and enter the City along the roadway and then direct cyclists to the adjacent streets for a route to other bikeways on the island.

Flooding and Drainage Improvements: The corridor from the George Redding Bridge through Susquehanna Avenue will be elevated by nearly 3 feet in some areas. This will elevate the roadway above the elevation of the frequent flood events causing closures of the roadway. In addition, a new drainage system will be installed and will be connected to a pump station to be constructed at the Northwest corner of Rio Grande and Susquehanna Avenue. The pump station will serve to keep Rio Grande Avenue open, as well as assisting in removing nuisance flooding from the neighborhood streets.

Gateway Enhancement Improvements: A roadway improvement project requires standard features to be included such as curbs, pavement, traffic lights, street lighting, signage, etc. This project is taking each of those needed features and incorporating the Wildwood aesthetic into the streetscape design. A new video message sign shaped like a wave, an additional resembling a surf board sign, and sidewalks that incorporate the aesthetic of Wildwood, are a few of the signature elements to be included in the gateway design.

We are excited to hear your thoughts on this project! For additional project information, please visit the Cape May County website: <http://www.capemaycountynj.gov/1069/Reports-and-Studies>

Contact Information

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