

# COVERT AVENUE CROSSING DETOUR PLAN –TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY

Executive Summary  
August 13, 2018

## 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes Stantec’s traffic impact study related to the construction at the Covert Avenue crossing and the subsequent closure of Covert Avenue between 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue in the Village of New Hyde Park, New York. While there will be some advance work in the area prior to the closure to prepare for construction, the actual closure will last a maximum of 180 days. The proposed detour, which will only be in effect during the closure, would divert Covert Avenue through traffic to the outer roadways of Jericho Turnpike, Plainfield Avenue, Tulip Avenue, Stewart Avenue, and New Hyde Park Road. According to the LIRR Expansion Project EIS, between 1,200 and 1,300 vehicles would need to be detoured during the weekday AM and PM peak hours.

Existing and detour capacity analyses were performed during the weekday morning and weekday evening peak hours in order to evaluate traffic operations. A total of 34 intersections were selected based on their proximity to the Covert Avenue crossing and their potential of being impacted by the closure and detour. Data for eleven of the intersections were taken from May 2016 turning movement counts used for the LIRR Expansion Project EIS. A data collection program was undertaken in June 2018 to update the previous LIRR Expansion Project EIS data, and to collect data for 23 intersections, 22 of which were previously not included. An existing conditions analysis was performed to assess current traffic conditions and provide a baseline to compare to the future detour conditions and provide an assessment of the projected impacts associated with the detours. To evaluate the impact potential of the Covert Avenue crossing construction, detour analyses were performed for both the weekday AM peak hour and the weekday PM peak hour. Additionally, mitigation measures were tested at intersections with significant adverse impacts caused by the detours.

Peak hour traffic volumes, together with other significant parameters such as delay, were used to determine the level-of-service (LOS), which is a letter rating that evaluates how well (e.g., LOS A) or poorly (e.g., LOS F) traffic operates at an approach or at an intersection overall. A summary of the existing, detour, and detour with mitigation LOS for each of the analyzed intersections (showing the overall LOS) are presented in Table 1. Details regarding mitigation techniques are discussed in a later section.

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**Table 1 Capacity Analysis Summary – Existing, Detour, and Detour with Mitigation**

	Intersection	AM Peak Hour			PM Peak Hour			Mitigation Measures
		Existing	Detour	Detour with Mitigation	Existing	Detour	Detour with Mitigation	
<b>SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS</b>								
1	Jericho Turnpike & Covert Avenue	D	B		E	B		
2	Jericho Turnpike & S 12th Street	B	B		B	B		
3	Jericho Turnpike & New Hyde Park Road	E	F	F	F	F	F	
10	Covert Avenue & Stewart Avenue East	B	C		B	D		
18	Covert Avenue & Stewart Avenue West	B	B		D	B		
12	Stewart Avenue & New Hyde Park Road	C	F	E	C	F	F	
13	Jericho Turnpike (NY 25) & Plainfield Avenue	D	F	E	D	E	E	
15	Plainfield Avenue & Tulip Avenue	C	D	E	D	F	F	
19	Covert Avenue & Tulip Avenue	C	D		C	D		
20	Covert Avenue/Meacham Avenue & Hempstead Turnpike (NY 24)	D	D		D	D		
23	New Hyde Park Road & 6th Avenue/Stratford Avenue	A	A		A	B		
24	New Hyde Park Road & Tulip Avenue	D	D		E	E		
25	New Hyde Park Road & Hempstead Turnpike (NY 24)	D	D	D	D	D	E	
27	Clinch Avenue & Stewart Avenue	B	B		B	B		
29	Nassau Boulevard & Merillon Avenue	C	C		F	F		
30	Nassau Boulevard & Stratford Avenue	B	B		B	B		
31	Nassau Boulevard & Stewart Avenue	D	D		D	D		
32	Covert Avenue & Salisbury Avenue/Beverly Avenue	A	A		B	B		
<b>UNSIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS</b>								
4	2nd Avenue & Covert Avenue	A	A		A	A		
5	2nd Avenue & S 12th Street	A	B		A	A		
6	2nd Avenue & New Hyde Park Road	A	A		A	A		
7	3rd Avenue & Covert Avenue	A	A		A	A		
8	3rd Avenue & S 12th Street	A	A		A	A		
9	Clinch Avenue & New Hyde Park Road	A	A		A	A		
11	Stewart Avenue & S 12th Street	A	A	B	C	F	B	
14	Plainfield Avenue & Stewart Street	A	A	C	B	E	C	
16	Covert Avenue & 5th Avenue	A	A		A	A		
17	Covert Avenue & 6th Avenue	A	A		A	A		
21	S 12th Street & 5th Avenue	A	A		A	A		
22	New Hyde Park Road & 5th Avenue	A	A		A	A		
26	Clinch Avenue & Stratford Avenue	A	A		B	B		
28	Nassau Boulevard & Atlantic Avenue	F	F		B	B		
33	New Hyde Park Road & Salisbury Avenue	A	A		A	A		
34	South Tyson Avenue & Atlantic Avenue/Woodbine Court	A	A		B	B		

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Detour Traffic Conditions During Covert Avenue Closure  
August 13, 2018

### Table 6 Northbound Through Traffic Detours

Detour Route	Origin	Destination	Detour Start	Detour End
A	South of Study Area	West of Study Area	Covert Avenue/ Tulip Avenue	Jericho Turnpike/ Plainfield Avenue
B	South of Study Area	East of Study Area	Covert Avenue/ Stewart Avenue	Jericho Turnpike/ New Hyde Park Road
C	East of Study Area	West of Study Area	Stewart Avenue/ New Hyde Park Road	Jericho Turnpike/ Covert Avenue

### Figure 2 Northbound Through Traffic Detour Map



Northbound Detour Route A is for northbound through traffic that is originating south of the study area and is destined for west of the study area. This detour commences at Covert Avenue and Tulip Avenue and terminates at Jericho

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### Table 7 Southbound Through Traffic Detours

Detour Route	Origin	Destination	Detour Start	Detour End
D	West of Study Area	South of Study Area	Jericho Turnpike/ Plainfield Avenue	Covert Avenue/ Tulip Avenue
E	East of Study Area	South of Study Area	Jericho Turnpike/ New Hyde Park Road	Covert Avenue/ Stewart Avenue
F	West of Study Area	East of Study Area	Jericho Turnpike/ Covert Avenue	Stewart Avenue/ New Hyde Park Road

### Figure 3 Southbound Through Traffic Detour Map



Southbound Detour Route D is for southbound through traffic that is originating west of the study area and is destined for south of the study area. This detour commences at Jericho Turnpike and Plainfield Avenue and terminates at Covert Avenue and Tulip Avenue. Instead of travelling eastbound on Jericho Turnpike and southbound on Covert Avenue, vehicles using this detour will travel southbound on Plainfield Avenue and Tulip Avenue.