

Northampton Street Toll Bridge

Easton, PA / Phillipsburg, NJ, United States





The Northampton Street Bridge in Easton, PA — commonly known as the “Free Bridge” — underwent a comprehensive rehabilitation and modernization project to extend the life of the 125-year-old structure. Infrastructure improvements were paired with a contemporary lighting upgrade, strengthening both performance and nighttime identity.

Constructed between 1895 and 1896, it is one of the few surviving eye-bar cantilever bridges in the United States, a relatively uncommon late-19th-century structural form.

The modernized lighting design incorporates spot, flood, and linear luminaires to highlight structural details and create visual continuity. Independence Lighting supported installation and commissioning through on-site technical assistance, DMX addressing, fixture mapping, and integration of 0–10 V fixtures into the DMX system. Programming was completed using Pharos Designer 2, delivering precise control, reliable operation, and long-term flexibility.

The project successfully merges historic preservation with advanced lighting and controls technology, enhancing maintainability, visual impact, and extending the functional lifespan of this iconic bridge.

Photo courtesy of Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission.