

202 Parkway Construction Status
September 20, 2009

**ABUTMENTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION FOR BRIDGE OVER
ROUTE 309; PAVING BEGINS WEST OF ROUTE 309**

Construction set to begin on middle and northern segments of nine mile Parkway

Motorists passing through the Route 202 Parkway work zone along Route 309 south of Montgomeryville can see progress in real time as work continues on the abutments for the Parkway overpass. But while the looming structure on the west side of the highway and the under-construction abutment on the east side may dominate the landscape, there are a number of other activities underway on the new Montgomeryville-to-Doylestown roadway.

In August, work was completed on the western abutment for the bridge that will carry the Parkway over Route 309. Bridge activities then shifted to the opposite side, where crews began building the structure's eastern abutment – the end wall that connects the bridge to the approach roadway. – is expected to be completed in October.

When the second abutment is completed in October, bridge deck beams will be set atop the supports and crews will then work through the fall to construct the bridge's reinforced concrete deck.

Earthwork activities to shape the Parkway's footprint between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike) have been completed. Construction of the road's base pavement in this area is expected to begin in late September. In addition, the ramp on the west side of Route 309 that will provide Route 309 southbound motorists access to the Parkway remains under construction.

Excavation for the Parkway from Route 309 east to Route 463 (Horsham Road) continues. Utility companies also continue installing and relocating electrical and communication lines as well as water and sewer pipes. Storm water drainage facilities are under construction in this section as well.

Activities at Other Locations

Construction is expected to begin this fall on the two remaining sections of the nine-mile Parkway. A contract (\$42 million) to build the northern segment in Warrington and Doylestown townships, Bucks County, is expected to begin in October. Northern section work between Pickertown Road and Route 611 will begin with site clearing, installation of erosion and sedimentation controls and excavation.

PennDOT also opened bids on September 10 to construct the middle section of the Parkway. An apparent low bid of approximately \$25 million was submitted for the Route 463 (Horsham Road)-to-Pickertown Road segment in Montgomery and Bucks counties.

The bid currently is under review and expected to go to construction in November on this 3.3 mile connecting link.

In addition to work on the Parkway itself, construction is progressing on a companion project (funded in part by Montgomery Township) to widen Route 463 (Horsham Road) between North Wales Road and General Hancock Boulevard. This project is on schedule as utility and drainage work continue.

Construction also is expected to begin in early 2010 to build the southern terminus interchange that will tie existing Route 202 (Dekalb Pike) and existing Route 63 (Welsh Road) into the new alignment of the Parkway. Another project, which will widen County Line Road between Route 202 and Stump Road to accommodate traffic heading for the Parkway entrance at County Line Road, is expected to start in mid-2010.

Parkway Overview

The almost nine mile-long Route 202 Parkway is being built from Route 63 (Welsh Road), just east of Route 202 (Dekalb Pike) in Montgomery Township, to Route 611 in Doylestown Township to provide traffic relief for motorists on the existing Route 202 and other nearby roads. The new roadway will be located in a corridor roughly bordered by Upper State Road and Stump Road, passing through sections of Montgomery, Warrington and Doylestown townships.

The Parkway will be four lanes wide between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 463 (Horsham Road), and two lanes wide from Route 463 (Horsham Road) to the interchange with the Route 611 near Doylestown. The Parkway also will include paved shoulders that will serve as bicycle lanes, as well as a shared-use path that will run alongside the Parkway.

Access to the Parkway will be available at a southern terminus interchange at Route 202 (Dekalb Pike)/Route 63 (Welsh Road), and at an interchange with Route 611 at its northern terminus. Additional access also will be provided at Route 309 – via connector ramps on both sides of Route 309 – and at signalized, at-grade intersections with:

- Knapp Road,
- Costco Drive A,
- Route 463 (Horsham Road),
- County Line Road,
- Route 152 (Limekiln Pike),
- Bristol Road and
- Lower State Road.

The Parkway also will include new bridges over Route 309, Almshouse Road, New Britain Road and the Neshaminy Creek. New bridges will carry Pickertown Road and Wells Road over sections of the depressed Parkway. The project also includes widening and other improvements to sections of several intersecting roadways, including Limekiln Pike, Upper State Road and Bristol Road. The entire Parkway is expected to be completed by November 2011.