

Route 202 Parkway Construction Update: April 2010

Construction Springing Up Across the Length of the Parkway

With the arrival of spring, construction activity on the Route 202 Parkway is expanding across the entire nine-mile corridor, where crews are working at numerous locations in Montgomery and Bucks counties.

Crews on Section 701 – the 1.8-mile, \$31.7 million stretch of Parkway between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 463 (Horsham Road) – worked through the winter building structures. The large span over Route 309 has been readied for placement of deck concrete, scheduled for April. Progress also was made on a construction of a small stream crossing structure north of Knapp Road and on a flood-control structure north of Route 309.

Construction continues on a large retaining wall supporting the northbound on-ramp and the Parkway's embankments north of Route 309. Installation of the wall's pre-cast "T" panels, which provide the wall's structural support, is underway.

While much of the major excavation has been completed between Knapp and Horsham roads, equipment operators will fine-tune the sub-grades of the mainline Parkway and its ramps and intersections in preparation to begin paving activities later this spring.

The Parkway section between Welsh and Knapp roads is virtually completed, though work will continue through the spring to finish landscaping activities and prep the section for final paving this summer.

Sections 711 and 721

Early construction activities that began in late 2009 and early 2010 on the central and northern Parkway sections (Sec. 711, 3.3 miles, \$25 million; Sec. 721, 3.4 miles, \$42 million) included placement of environmental controls, establishing center-line and edge-of-disturbance lines along the Parkway's perimeter, and site clearing operations.

These activities will continue to expand across the entire length of Section 721 this spring. Earth moving activities also will ramp-up as excavators establish the roadway's footprint and begin building structures in addition to the one that currently is under construction at New Britain Road, where abutment foundations are in place and abutment walls are being built.

A section of Wells Road at the Parkway in Doylestown Township will be rebuilt beginning this spring. The work will require a detour between Valley Circle and Radcliff Drive. Notice of the road closure will be posted on signs approximately two weeks in advance of the start of construction there.

Section 711 activities currently are limited to the area between Detweiler and Pickertown roads. In addition to clearing and placement of environmental controls, excavation is underway for foundations for the Parkway bridge over Mill Creek north of Detweiler Road. Detweiler Road has been permanently closed to through traffic and will reopen with cul-de-sacs on both sides of the Parkway.

PennDOT also expects to start work this spring on the Route 202, Section 65N project, which is the connection between existing Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and the Parkway near Route 63 (Welsh Road). Early activities on this project will involve extensive utility relocation along Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and Route 63 (Welsh Road). Motorists may encounter traffic restrictions during these activities.

Crews have returned to complete work on the south side of Route 463 (Horsham Road), the first Parkway companion project that is widening Route 463 (Horsham Road) between North Wales Road and General Hancock Boulevard. Another companion project, which is scheduled to start in mid-to-late 2010, is the widening of County Line Road between Route 202 and Stump Road to accommodate traffic heading for the Parkway entrance.