

Route 202 Parkway Construction Update November 2010

Widening Continues on Route 202, Route 63; Bridge Building in Parkway's Central and Northern Sections

A variety of construction activities are underway at the southern end of the Route 202 Parkway in Montgomery County, with widening continuing on Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and Route 63 (Welsh Road) and drainage and utility work ongoing at the approaches to the Parkway's southern connection. With major construction nearing an end on the Parkway's southern mainline section (701), workers on the Parkway's middle and northern sections (711, 721) continue their focus on excavation and bridge building as construction heads toward winter.

Following is a summary of progress that has been made on building the Route 202 Parkway along with the ongoing construction and expected traffic impacts, by section, running from south to north along the nine-mile corridor through Lower Gwynedd, Upper Gwynedd and Montgomery townships in Montgomery County, and Warrington and Doylestown townships in Bucks County.

Section 65N – Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) Improvements and Southern Parkway Connector

Paving is progressing on this widened section on the east side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike). Crews are placing two of the three courses of pavement (the "base" and "binder") between Hancock Road and the intersection with the new Parkway connector, which already has been paved.

The east side of the intersection of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and Hancock Road has been reconstructed. Grading and curb construction are underway on the west side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) south of Hancock Road.

Crews also are constructing the curb, installing drainage and grading along the widened east side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) south of Route 63 (Welsh Road). Excavation for storm water drainage components also is underway along the east side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) just south of Knapp Road.

On the west side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike), utility crews continue to relocate poles both north and south of Route 63. Storm water drainage is under construction north of the intersection. Most of the other sub-surface utilities are now in place in this area.

Widening also continues on the north side of Route 63 (Welsh Road) between Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and Stump Road.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Weekday lane closures, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Route 202 on both sides of Route 63;**
- **Periodic traffic stoppages, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Route 63 east of Route 202;**
- **No left turn lanes in both directions on Route 63 at Route 202;**
- **No left turn from Route 202 south to Route 63; and**
- **Swedesford Road (upper) closed permanently to through traffic.**

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Section 701 – Parkway construction between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 463 (Horsham Road)

Route 63 (Welsh Road) to Knapp Road

Route 202 Parkway construction is virtually finished in this section. Placement of the final line striping, signs and plantings will be done this fall.

Knapp Road to Route 309

Widening on Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike) at the Parkway Interchange continues. Paving is expected to be completed this month on the mainline Parkway, the ramps and connector from Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike), the Shared Use Path and the Trailhead Parking Area. Placement of the final line striping, signs and plantings will be done this fall.

Route 309 to Route 463 (Horsham Road)

Paving is finished between Route 463 (Horsham Road) and the Parkway bridge over Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike). Opened in early November was the signalized intersection of the Parkway at Route 463 (Horsham Road), along with a short segment of the Parkway south to Costco Drive. This move provides additional access for travel to and from General Hancock Boulevard and the adjacent commercial and residential areas while work continues to widen Route 463 (Horsham Road) at its intersection with, and approaches to, the Route 202 Parkway. The rest of the Parkway in this area will remain closed until the Parkway opens in its entirety in mid-2012.

All drainage structures, bridges, parapets, berms, Shared Use Path and retaining walls are in place in this section, and improvements have also been completed on cross streets (Costco Drive, Drive A).

Traffic Restrictions

- **Occasional weekday lane closures, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Route 463 (Horsham Road).**
- **Occasional weekday lane closures, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Knapp Road.**

Companion Project Section MW1 – Route 463 (Horsham Road) Widening

The roadway portion of the project to widen Route 463 (Horsham Road) to four lanes with a center turn lane between North Wales Road and General Hancock Boulevard has wrapped up. Some sidewalk construction remains to be done to complete the project.

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Section 711 – Parkway construction between Route 463 (Horsham Road) and Pickertown Roads

Route 463 (Horsham Road) to County Line Road

Crews continue deck construction on the bridge over the Little Neshaminy Creek. Abutment construction is nearing an end for a second stream crossing in this section; beams for this bridge will be set this month. Storm drainage has been installed between Route 463 (Horsham Road) and the bridge. Bulk excavation from the bridge north to County Line Road is scheduled to resume next spring.

County Line Road to Route 152 (Limekiln Pike)

The concrete deck and approach slabs for the bridge over Mill Creek, located just north of the permanently-closed Detweiler Road, are in place and construction of the bridge's parapets continues.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures, weekdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on County Line Road; and**
- **Detweiler Road closed permanently.**

Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) to Pickertown Road

Blasting to loosen rock and related bulk excavation will resume in this area next spring. Berms are in place on the east side of the Parkway.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures, weekdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) and Upper State Road.**

Companion Project Section WD1 – County Line Road Widening

With contracts in place to widen and reconstruct County Line Road between Route 202 and Stump Road, crews will soon begin clearing and relocating utility lines in this work area. Major construction may start later this year or early in 2011 as weather conditions permit.

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Section 721 – Parkway construction between Pickertown Road and Route 611 **Pickertown Road to Bristol Road**

The majority of clearing work has been completed in this area, and the emergency access road is in place. Work also continues on the Bristol Road Trailhead Parking area.

Widening continues on Bristol Road between Upper State and Stump roads. The existing eastbound detour has been expanded temporarily to include westbound Bristol Road for construction between Upper State Road and Coachlight Circle. Bristol Road is expected reopen to westbound motorists by Nov. 24.

Bristol Road to Almshouse Road

Excavation continues for the mainline Parkway between Bristol Road and Neshaminy Creek, where construction is underway to build abutments and two of the bridge's three support piers. Work also continues on the bridge deck for the span over Almshouse Road. A pre-cast arch culvert is in place over an unnamed branch of Neshaminy Creek south of Almshouse Road.

Traffic Restrictions

- **None currently in this area.**

Almshouse Road to Route 611

Excavation continues at a number of locations between Almshouse Road and Route 611, with blasting continuing in the area near Wells Road. Crews also are building the support abutments for a small bridge between Wells and Lower State roads. Deck construction continues for the Parkway bridge over New Britain Road.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Wells Road is closed to through traffic; and**
- **Bristol Road closed to eastbound and westbound traffic between Upper State and Stump roads.**

The Route 202 Parkway is scheduled to be completed and open to traffic in mid-2012