

202 Parkway

Construction Update: May 2010

Construction Now Underway Across Most of Parkway's Nine Miles

Mid-spring finds construction underway across most of the nine-mile length of the Route 202 Parkway, from Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) in Upper and Lower Gwynedd townships to approaching Route 611 in Doylestown Township. Following is a summary of the ongoing activities, along with expected traffic impacts, by section running from south to north.

Section 65N

Work started in late April on the southern connection between DeKalb Pike and the Parkway at Route 63 (Welsh Road). Grade and centerline stakes were established in the triangular area between DeKalb Pike and Swedesford Road – where the .2-mile-long connector to the Parkway will be built.

The section of Swedesford Road (upper), which had been used by commuters to avoid the busy intersection of DeKalb Pike and Welsh Road, was permanently closed to through traffic on May 10.

Clearing operations currently are underway along the east side of DeKalb Pike beginning just south of Hancock Street, the first step in the planned widening of this Parkway approach corridor to four through lanes with turning lanes at the intersection with Welsh Road. Trees and other vegetation have been removed from the west side of DeKalb Pike at the intersection with Swedesford Road (lower). Currently a diagonal connection between Sumneytown Pike and DeKalb Pike, the intersection is being rebuilt as a “T” intersection.

Utility relocation activities also are underway on DeKalb Pike and on Welsh Road in the first phase of work to improve 2.1 miles DeKalb Pike and .8 miles of Welsh Road approaching the southern entry to the Parkway.

Traffic Restrictions

- **A weekday detour, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., of through traffic is in place on Swedesford Road (lower).**
- **Weekday lane closures, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on DeKalb Pike and Welsh Road**
- **Swedesford Road (upper) closed permanently**

Section 701

Welsh Road to Knapp Road

Parkway construction is virtually completed in this section. Landscaping activities are nearing completion. The final paving layer – the *riding surface* – will be placed this fall.

Knapp Road to Route 309

Bulk excavation to establish the Parkway's main line, intersections and ramps is mostly finished in this area, with equipment operators making final adjustments to establish the pavement's base grade in advance of paving operations scheduled to be underway this summer.

Crews have set girders for a small bridge over a tributary of the Neshaminy Creek, located about mid way between Knapp Road and Route 309. Work continues to finish the section's stormwater drainage and retention areas for this section of the Parkway.

Deck concrete for the overpass at Route 309 is expected to be poured in late-May or early-June. Trees and shrubs also are being planted along the main line, ramp areas and adjacent to the shared-use path, which also remains under construction on the east side of the new roadway.

Route 309 to Route 463 (Horsham Road)

Bulk excavation to establish the Parkway's main line, intersections and ramps also is virtually finished in this area between the commercial complex anchored by Costco and residential areas to the east. Paving activities in this section are expected to begin this summer.

Construction is nearing completion on lengthy retaining walls to support the embankment and ramps on the Parkway immediately north of Route 309 overpass. A stormwater arch culvert in place just south of Horsham Road also has been completed.

Work is underway on improvements to Costco Drive, which intersects the Parkway just south of Horsham Road. And Horsham Road widening – now underway on the east side – is nearing completion this summer. New traffic signals will be installed at intersections with Upper State Road and North Wales Road. The final paving course will be placed between North Wales Road and Gen. Hancock Blvd. in June.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Costco Drive closed**
- **Occasional weekday lane closures, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Horsham Road**

Section 711

Horsham Road to County Line Road

A short section of Parkway that connects Horsham Road with Section 711 on the north side of Horsham Road has been excavated. Crews have begun placing environmental controls (silt fences, filters, perimeter fences, etc.) and clearing operations in the remainder of this section.

County Line Road to Limekiln Pike

Environmental controls are in place and most of the clearing has been done in this section. Excavation for the Parkway's footprint has been completed between Detweiler Road and Limekiln Pike and is expanding south from Detweiler Road, which is closed permanently between Stump and Upper State roads.

Just north of Detweiler Road, the southern abutment to a bridge over Mill Creek is in place, and work is underway to build the northern abutment to this small stream crossing. Construction of this bridge will continue through the summer.

Installation of the stormwater drainage system is underway on both sides of Limekiln Pike, and utility crews are relocating lines along Limekiln Pike and Upper State Road approaching the parkway.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Detweiler Road closed**

Limekiln Pike to Pickertown Road

Environmental controls are in place, and most of the clearing has been done in this section. Controlled blasting is scheduled to begin this month to excavate bedrock. Abutment construction is set to begin for the Pickertown Road bridge over the Parkway, and installation of the Parkway's stormwater drainage system continues.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Limekiln Pike and Upper State Road.**

Section 721

Pickertown Road to Bristol Road

Some environmental controls are in place, and limited clearing has been done in this area.

Bristol Road to Almshouse Road

Environmental controls are being installed, and clearing has been completed in much of this section. Bulk excavation is now underway, and components of the subsurface storm-water drainage system are under construction at specific locations.

Construction of abutments for the Parkway bridge over Almshouse Road is underway. Bridge construction will continue through the summer.

A temporary traffic signal has been installed at the intersection of Bristol and Upper State roads. Utility work is underway on Bristol and Upper State roads approaching the Parkway. A detour of eastbound Bristol Road – which will be rebuilt approaching to the Parkway – between Lower State and Upper State roads is scheduled to be in place this summer.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Almshouse Road.**

Almshouse Road to Route 611

Environmental controls are being installed, and clearing is underway from Almshouse to Lower State roads. Crews are constructing abutments for the Parkway bridge over New Britain Road. The bridge will remain under construction through the summer.

Bulk excavation for the Parkway's footprint and installation of the stormwater drainage system continues through to Lower State Road. Utility crews are working to relocate lines along Almshouse, Lower State and Wells roads approaching the Parkway. An emergency access road is under construction between Wells and New Britain roads in advance of a detour of Wells Road between Valley Circle and Radcliff Drive this summer.

Traffic Restrictions

- **Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures, weekdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Almshouse, Lower State and Wells roads.**