

## Route 202 Parkway Construction Update Fall 2011

### **PennDOT PAVING SECTIONS OF NEW PARKWAY, WIDENING APPROACH ROADS**

Paving is underway in a number of areas this fall across the Route 202 Parkway work zone and widening is progressing on several roads approaching Parkway entry points in Bucks County as construction of the new, nine-mile roadway moves steadily toward completion next fall.

Following is a summary of progress that was made over the summer along with current activities – as well as expected traffic impacts -- by section moving from south to north along the project corridor through Lower Gwynedd, Upper Gwynedd, Montgomery, Warrington, New Britain and Doylestown townships.

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

Sound wall construction along the northbound and southbound side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) south of Hancock Road will be completed in early fall. Sound wall construction along the widened northbound side between Hancock Road and Route 63 (Welsh Road) Road will continue through the fall.

Utility crews are expected to finish removing the old poles this fall that stand in the way of the widening that is partially completed on Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) at the southern terminus of the Parkway. With the poles moved, excavation, grading and paving will resume on the north side of Route 63 (Welsh Road) from Stump Road to Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) and continue through late-fall.

Route 63 (Welsh Road) widening west of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) is on-going and will continue through the fall as well.

Once the utility poles on Route 63 (Welsh Road) are moved, utility crews will shift onto Route 202 (DeKalb Pike). Construction will resume on the east side of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) between Swedesford Road (lower) and the connector to the Parkway at Route 63 (Welsh Road) once the utilities are moved. Widening on the east side should finish by early spring 2012.

North of Route 202 (DeKalb Pike) has been repaved from north of Route 63 to Route 309, and curb and sidewalk construction is ongoing in this area.

### **Traffic Restrictions**

- *Periodic weekday lane closures on Route 202 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.;*
- *Periodic weekday lane closures on Route 63 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.;*
- *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 Route 309**

The Route 202 Parkway is finished in this section. Lane markings, traffic signs, the shared-use path and parking area, the ramp to and from Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike) and traffic signals are in place. Landscapers will finish planting this fall. Knapp Road and Route 309 (Bethlehem Pike) have been widened at the Parkway, but construction barriers remain in place until the Parkway opens to traffic.

#### **Route 309 to Route 463 (Horsham Road)**

About half of this finished portion of the Parkway is partially open to traffic between Route 463 (Horsham Road) and Costco Drive/Terrace Way to provide access to and from General Hancock Boulevard as well as the adjacent commercial and residential areas. The rest of the finished Parkway in this area will remain closed until fall 2012. Construction barriers remain in place on Horsham Road, Costco Drive and the open portion of the Parkway until the entire Parkway opens to traffic.

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

The project to widen Route 463 (Horsham Road) to four lanes with a center turn lane between North Wales Road and General Hancock Boulevard is finished.

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

#### **Route 463 (Horsham Road) to County Line Road**

The storm-water drainage system is in place and asphalt paving is underway for the Parkway and the Shared Use Path. Two small bridges in this section are finished. Several retaining walls at the bridges remain under construction.

#### **County Line Road to Route 152 (Limekiln Pike)**

An arch culvert that will provide access under the Parkway for the nearby cemetery is in place as is the Parkway bridge over Mill Creek, located just north of the permanently closed Detweiler Road. Base paving for the Parkway has been completed in this area.

Road widening is completed along the northbound side of Route 152 (Limekiln Pike), where the pavement is being raised to meet the elevation of the Parkway, from Stump Road to north of Upper State Road. Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) traffic is now riding on the newly constructed outside lanes as work continues in the middle.

Construction of the Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) intersection with the Parkway also continues, as does work to widen the intersection of Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) and Upper State Road, which is scheduled to be completed this fall.

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### **Traffic Restrictions**

- *Periodic flagger-controlled lane closures on Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) and Upper State Road, weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.;*
- *Detweiler Road closed permanently.*
- *Periodic stoppages for equipment crossings on County Line Road at the Parkway, weekdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

### **Route 152 (Limekiln Pike) to Pickertown Road**

Berms are in place on the east side of the Parkway along with storm water basins.

Blasting to loosen rock and related bulk excavation will resume when Pickertown Road closes in early November for construction of a bridge over the Parkway. Rough excavation for the Parkway's mainline where it will pass under the bridge has been finished south of Pickertown Road.

### **Traffic Restrictions**

- *Pickertown Road detoured between Stump and Upper State roads (Nov. 2011)*

### **Companion Project Section WD1 – County Line Road Widening**

Road widening continues on the Bucks County side from east of Route 202 (Butler Avenue) to Stump Road. Crews are also excavating and installing storm water drainage facilities and building sound walls in this area. In addition, a locally-owned water line is being relocated in the widened area as are PECO poles and lines. Work also is underway to install temporary traffic signals that will be used when the existing signal poles are removed during construction on the north side later this year.

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

#### **Pickertown Road to Bristol Road**

Excavation to establish a base grade for the Parkway continues between Pickertown Road and a culvert that crosses a tributary of the Neshaminy Creek, which remains under construction. From the culvert north to Bristol Road, base paving is in place. Berms also have been constructed along the outside edges of the right-of-way in this section.

Bristol Road was widened between Upper State and Stump roads at the approaches to the Parkway, and construction is underway to widen Upper State Road at the intersection with Bristol Road to include left turn lanes.

#### **Bristol Road to Almshouse Road**

Base paving is in place between Bristol Road and the bridge over the Neshaminy Creek. The bridge's concrete deck is built and parapet construction will finish this fall.

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From north of the creek bridge to Almshouse Road, crews are finishing grading operations and paving will start in the fall. A pre-cast arch culvert and adjacent retaining walls are in place over a branch of the Neshaminy Creek south of Almshouse Road, which has been reconstructed in the vicinity of the Parkway. The Parkway bridge over Almshouse Road is in place.

### **Almshouse Road to Route 611**

The base pavement is in place from Almshouse Road to Lower State Road. Crews also are finishing a small Parkway bridge north of Lower State Road and retaining walls in the sunken area between Lower State and Wells roads. The Parkway bridge over New Britain Road also is done.

The new Wells Road bridge over the Parkway opened on Oct. 5 and the Parkway's main line remains under construction between Lower State Road and Route 611.

The Route 202 Parkway is scheduled to be completed and open to traffic in fall 2012.