



## **News for Immediate Release**

**Jan. 15, 2009**

### **PennDOT to Start Building Northern Section of Route 202 Parkway in Bucks County**

Clearing Operations Begin Next Week to Build 3.4 Miles of 202 Parkway between Pickertown Road and Route 611

**King of Prussia** – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) today announced that construction will begin next week on the \$42.2 million contract to build the 3.4-mile northern section of the Route 202 Parkway between Pickertown Road and Route 611 in Warrington and Doylestown townships, Bucks County.

Weather permitting, the contractor plans to begin work Monday (Jan. 18) to clear land for the new two-lane Parkway. The contractor will start at the northern end of the project where the Parkway will cross over New Britain Road. James D. Morrissey, Inc. of Philadelphia is the general contractor on the \$42,175,769 contract.

This contract is one of three PennDOT is utilizing to build the 8.6-mile long Route 202 Parkway between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 611. PennDOT began building the Parkway in November 2008 with the construction of the 1.8-mile long southern section between Route 63 (Welsh Road) and Route 463 (Horsham Road) in Montgomery County. Construction is scheduled to start Thursday (Jan. 21) on the central section between Route 463 and Pickertown Road in Montgomery and Bucks counties.

The Parkway, which will have four travel lanes between Route 63 and Route 463 and two lanes between Route 463 and Route 611, is scheduled to open in late 2011. The \$200 million project is financed with 100 percent state funds.

The two-lane Parkway between Pickertown Road and Route 611 will have one travel lane in each direction with left turn lane lanes at all intersections. It also will include:

- Five-foot wide paved shoulder/bicycle lanes with an additional three-foot wide shoulder for emergency access and breakdowns;
- Two new signalized intersections at Bristol Road and Lower State Road;
- Modifications to an existing traffic signal at Upper State Road/Bristol Road;

- The installation of new traffic signal control equipment at the signalized intersections. The new signal control system will detect and collect vehicle data by processing video images. The data then will be utilized to automatically optimize the traffic signal timing in response to real-time traffic demands. Pedestrian accommodations are also included at all signalized intersections, including pedestrian signal heads with countdown timers;
- A 12-foot wide shared-use path serving walkers and bicyclists, with four access points to the trail;
- Trailhead parking areas off Bristol Road and New Britain Road;
- Three locations where the Parkway is grade separated from local streets. New bridges will carry the Parkway over Almshouse Road and New Britain Road, and the Parkway will traverse under a new bridge on Wells Road;
- A new 524-foot long, four-span bridge over the Neshaminy Creek;
- 19 stormwater management facilities and bio-retention areas to promote stormwater infiltration and improved water quality;
- Approximately 1,600 linear feet of retaining walls to minimize wetland impacts, stream impacts and right-of-way impacts. The walls will be built using a design-build process to save construction and design costs;
- The installation of two temporary traffic signals during construction at the intersections of Butler Avenue and Tamamend Road and at Lower State Road and New Britain Road;
- The construction of an emergency access road between Wells Road and New Britain Road to provide emergency vehicles a temporary thoroughfare during the Wells Road construction;
- Context sensitive design elements including form liner patterns and painted concrete on all roadway barriers, culverts, retaining walls and bridge surfaces to simulate a traditional, stone appearance; approximately 5,500 feet of landscaped earth berms; extensive landscaping along the roadways and trails; landscaped median islands; riparian buffer plantings along wetlands and waterways; and other aesthetic enhancements.

PennDOT reminds motorists they can log on to [511pa.com](http://511pa.com) or call 511 from any phone to check traffic conditions on major highways before heading out.

Additional information on the Route 202 Parkway is available on line at [www.us202-700.com](http://www.us202-700.com).

**Media contact:** Gene Blaum, Assistant Press Secretary, 610-205-6800