From: Cowan, Steve
Subject: PennDOT Announces 2015 Allegheny County Highway and Bridge Improvement Projects
Date: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:38:58 PM

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 16, 2015

PennDOT Announces 2015 Allegheny County Highway and Bridge Improvement Projects

Pittsburgh – PennDOT is pleased to announce the 2015 Allegheny County transportation improvement project list for state-owned roads and bridges.

District 11 will invest an estimated $214 million on 37 projects to improve, preserve or rehabilitate transportation infrastructure including 72 bridges (43 structurally deficient) in Allegheny County in 2015. In addition, 133 miles of roadway will be paved or resurfaced and more than $16.1 million will be invested in tunnel maintenance and improvements. Approximately 28 projects will be bid this year valued at an estimated $218 million.

“We are excited to deliver much needed transportation improvements for our region,” said District Executive Dan Cessna. “We appreciate your patience as you travel through our work zones as we work to complete these key infrastructure projects.”

Here’s a preview of the major improvements scheduled for 2015 in Allegheny County:

Projects continuing from 2014 with minor work remaining

Route 8 - Saxonburg Boulevard to Butler Plank Road
Overall work to complete the $3.49 million Act 89 project includes minor bridge work, guiderail improvements, line painting and pavement marker installation. Other improvements completed in 2014 include drainage upgrades, traffic signal improvements and milling and resurfacing 2.5 miles of Route 8 between Saxonburg Boulevard and Butler Plank Road in Shaler Township. The project is anticipated to be finished by July.

Route 19 Perry Highway
This $7.99 million project to mill and resurface approximately four miles of Route 19 (Perry Highway) from Glenview Drive in Ross Township to Longview Drive in McCandless

Township was made possible through Act 89 funding. In addition to the resurfacing work, concrete patching, drainage improvements and retaining wall work were finished in 2014. The project will be completed in early summer 2015 with the construction of ADA curb cut ramps, traffic signal improvements, line painting and side road adjustments.

Route 51 Clairton Boulevard
Milling and resurfacing of approximately 4.3 miles of Route 51 between the Elizabeth Bridge and Coal Valley Road in Jefferson Hills Borough began in May 2014. The $5.8 million project includes signal improvements, guiderail upgrades, signing and pavement marking updates and structure repairs. Single-lane restrictions in each direction are currently in place as crews conduct drainage work. It is anticipated the project will be completed in May.

I-79 - Route 910 to Butler County
Continuing this May, permanent pavement marking work will occur on I-79 from Route 910 to Butler County. The installation of these pavement markings will occur during off-peak hours. Previous work completed in 2014 includes the milling and resurfacing of approximately 3.4 miles of I-79, ramp improvements, bridge preservation work guiderail upgrades and overhead sign updates. Work on this $7.71 million Act 89 project is set to be completed by late June 2015.

Westbound I-376 Parkway West
An additional lane was added to westbound I-376 (Parkway West) by reconstructing the shoulder between the Rossyln Farms and I-79 interchanges in 2014. A new overhead sign structure was added and guiderail improvements were completed on the Parkway West in 2015. Traffic restrictions will be minimal as crews complete noise wall installation. This $3.72 million project will conclude in the fall of 2015 with the planting of new trees.

West Smithfield Street Slide
Route 2018 West Smithfield Street in Lincoln Borough was reopened to traffic in December after slide repair work was completed in 2014. Crews stabilized the slope above the road with soil nails, removed debris and restored drainage in the slide area. Weather dependent work including milling and paving and reseeding will occur this year. It is anticipated the work will be complete on this nearly $1 million project by June.

Route 885 Lebanon Road Bridge
Only minor, weather related work remains on this $5.94 million bridge replacement project on Lebanon Road (Route 885) over the Union Railroad in West Mifflin Borough. Crews completed the bridge replacement, approach work, guiderail upgrades, new parapets and minor paving in 2014. Gate installation, pavement markings and mulching and seeding will be conducted by the end of April.

Projects continuing from 2014 with major work remaining

Route 51 West Carson Street Viaduct Project
This $38.99 million project includes the full replacement of the West Carson Street (Route 51) viaduct north of the Corliss Tunnel in the City of Pittsburgh. Southbound (inbound) traffic is being maintained while northbound (outbound) traffic is detoured using Route 65.

The structurally deficient portion of the 335-foot long structure has been replaced and significant utility relocation work is progressing. In 2015, crews will maintain a single lane of traffic on the riverside of the project while existing pavement is excavated, a new permeable base and concrete roadway is constructed and drainage is installed on the landside. Once the landside work is complete, traffic will be shifted onto the new pavement to accommodate pavement, drainage and viaduct work on the riverside. The project also includes wall and sidewalk rehabilitation and signal improvements. Work is anticipated to conclude in April 2016.

Route 60 Steubenville Pike

This $9 million project to improve Route 60 (Steubenville Pike) and Route 22/30 began in March 2014. The project includes milling and resurfacing on Route 60 and Route 22/30, repairs to the Route 22/30 bridge over McKee Road, repairs to the Old Steubenville Pike bridge over Route 22/30, traffic signal repairs, ADA curb cut ramp installation and other miscellaneous construction work. Anticipated to be complete in June, remaining work includes painting, bearing replacement and latex overlay on the bridges, traffic signal and pedestrian pole replacement, crosswalk improvements and embankment repairs.

Route 286 Golden Mile Highway

A significant portion of eastbound Route 286 widening, utility work and the relocation of Abers Creek was completed in 2014. This $10.7 million project to mill and pave, add a center turning lane and widen Route 286 (Golden Mile Highway) from Route 22 to approximately Old Frankstown Road in Monroeville will be completed in December 2015. Crews will finish the eastbound work by May and begin working on the center and westbound lanes. Additional work includes drainage, shoulder improvements, signal updates, culvert widening, guiderail upgrades and signing and pavement markings. A single-lane in each direction will be maintained throughout the majority of the project.

I-376 Parkway West Improvement Project

Work began in August 2014 on the $72.83 million project to improve I-376 (Parkway West) between the Fort Pitt Tunnel and I-79. The project consists of deck replacement of three bridges at the Carnegie Interchange, milling and resurfacing the entire corridor, median barrier replacement and shoulder reconstruction. Other improvements include bridge preservation work, guiderail installation, two overhead sign structure replacements, drainage improvements, repairs to retaining walls and existing sign structures, new pavement markings and sign updates. Weekend and overnight closures, single-lane restrictions, ramp closures, traffic shifts and lane narrowing will occur throughout the project. Overall work will conclude with bridge painting in 2016. All other improvements are anticipated to be completed by December 2015.

Lincoln Way

This $6.9 million congestion improvement project includes widening to add turning lanes, intersection realignment, milling and resurfacing, drainage and signal upgrades on approximately 1.69 miles of Route 2031 through the business district in White Oak Borough. Utility relocation work was completed in 2014 and crews are currently working on drainage improvements. Roadway construction will begin in the spring and it is anticipated the overall project will be completed by June 2016.

Route 51/88

The $18.99 million Route 51/88 Bridge and Safety Improvement Project includes the

replacement of five bridges, construction of a new bridge, turning lane construction, roadway reconstruction, signal upgrades, lighting, sidewalk and drainage improvements, CCTV cameras and stream bank restoration. Currently, work on the jug handle, one bridge and extensive utility relocation have been completed. Additionally, the first phase of work on three other bridges is finished. In 2015, the second phase of bridge work will begin, as will the reconstruction of Route 88. Lane closures, detours and full closures will occur. Overall work will conclude in the fall of 2015, with the exception of final paving, which will continue through the spring of 2016.

Fort Pitt Tunnel Ceiling Removal
The first of eight full weekend closures began in November 2014 on the $14.17 million Fort Pitt Tunnel Ceiling Removal project. To date, half of the closures are complete, with two outbound (westbound) weekend closures to occur by early April. Long-term single-lane restrictions in each direction will occur through December. Additional work on the project includes concrete repairs to the tunnel walls, waterline and standpipe improvements, electrical updates, drainage upgrades and reroofing of the north portal building. The majority of the tunnel work will conclude in December 2015 with the exception of the final two weekend closures for paving which will occur in the spring of 2016.

Glenwood Interchange Phase 2
This $11.1 million project includes the replacement of four culverts on Route 885 in the City of Pittsburgh, just south of the Glenwood Bridge. Three culverts will be replaced in their current location. The fourth will be replaced with two culverts and an open channel. Current work includes sewer line relocation and the construction of a culvert on Glass Run Road. Additionally, concrete repairs on two existing retaining walls, signal upgrades at two intersections and milling and resurfacing of the entire project will be conducted this year. Detours will occur during culvert replacement work. The project will be completed in late 2015.

Alpha Drive (Route 1018)
Minor preparatory work began in late 2014 on this $2.35 million project to replace the bridge carrying Alpha Drive (Route 1018) over Route 28 in O'Hara Township. Single-lane traffic will be maintained in each direction, as the bridge will be reconstructed in half widths. The project will be completed late in 2015.

Hulton Bridge
Work began in 2013 on a $64.8 million project to replace the Hulton Bridge, which carries Route 2082 over the Allegheny River between Freeport Road (Route 1001) in Harmar Township and Allegheny River Boulevard (Route 2073) in Oakmont Borough. Traffic is being maintained on the existing bridge while the new structure is constructed slightly upstream. The new bridge will carry four lanes of traffic and includes intersection improvements to reduce congestion on Freeport Road. The crossing is expected to be closed for a total of approximately 4 weeks with a 12 day closure after Riverview School is out for the summer and a 15 day closure in late September\early October as the transition to the new bridge is completed and the new bridge is opened by mid-October, 2015. Additionally, the existing structure will be demolished once the new bridge is open.

Birmingham Bridge Preservation Project
Work began in September 2014 on the $28.48 million bridge project. The Birmingham

Bridge Preservation Project will include the painting of the entire superstructure, steel repairs, bearing replacements, substructure repairs, light pole replacements and a concrete overlay. Traffic has been crossed over into the southbound lanes as crews begin improvements on the upstream side of the bridge that carries Route 2085 over the Monongahela River in the City of Pittsburgh. Work on the downstream side of the bridge will occur in 2016 as traffic is maintained on the northbound side. Various detours and traffic shifts will occur for cars, bicycles and pedestrians throughout construction. The overall project will conclude in May 2017.

2014 Group Projects

- **Weyman Road (Route 3035)** from Baptist Road to Provost Road in Whitehall Borough;
- **Greentree Road (Route 121)** from Cochran Road in Scott Township to Mansfield Avenue in Greentree Borough;
- **Penn Avenue/Butler Street (Route 2122)** from 31st Street to 51st Street in the City of Pittsburgh; and
- **Ingomar Road (Route 4070)** from Kummer Road to Babcock Boulevard in McCandless Township.

-
-
-
-

Projects starting construction in 2015

Route 50

The $19.04 Route 50 improvement project is underway from Washington County to Millers Run Road in South Fayette Township. Work includes roadway reconstruction, guiderail and barrier updates, drainage improvements, traffic signal upgrades, debris removal, signing and pavement markings. Traffic will be shifted onto one side of the roadway, while reconstruction work occurs. Single-lane traffic in each direction will be maintained. The project will be completed in October 2015.

Route 51 – Lebanon Church Road to Bausman Street

Roadway improvements are set to begin in May on nearly 11 miles of Route 51 from Lebanon Church Road to Bausman Street in the City of Pittsburgh, Baldwin, Whitehall, and Brentwood boroughs. Throughout the duration of the project, milling and paving activities will occur during overnight hours. Additional safety improvements include signal upgrades, curb median work, and drainage improvements. Construction is set to be completed on this estimated $14-17 million project by June 2016.

PA 380/SR 400 – Bigelow Boulevard/Bloomfield Bridge/North Craig Street/Baum Boulevard

Anticipated to begin in June, this estimated $14-17 million project consists of roadway reconstruction and resurfacing on Route 380 between Finland Street and Morewood

Avenue in the City of Pittsburgh. Additional work includes reconstruction of the ramps connecting the Bloomfield Bridge to Bigelow Boulevard, preservation work on the Baum Boulevard Bridge, pavement markings, sign updates, barrier replacement, ADA curb cut ramps, signal improvements and drainage work. Long-term and weekend closures will require detours in 2015. Overall work will conclude in late summer of 2016.

Bunola River Road Slide
Landslide remediation, roadway reconstruction and retaining wall work will occur in 2015 on Bunola River Road in Forward Township. This $1.34 million project will address a slide located between Elkhorn Road and approximately two miles north of River Hill Road.

Route 3044 Castle Shannon Boulevard
Estimated at $3-5 million, work to rehabilitate Castle Shannon Boulevard (Route 3044) in Mount Lebanon is anticipated to begin in May. Work will include upgrading pavement from brick to asphalt, drainage improvements, curb and sidewalk repairs, traffic signal upgrades, pavement marking and ADA curb cut ramp installations. To accommodate work, short-term lane restrictions and several weekend closures with detours will occur. The project is set to be completed in November 2015.

Route 4084 East Ohio Street/ Route 4099 East Street
Work is set to begin in June on the East Ohio Street Improvement Project in the City of Pittsburgh. Estimated at $10-12 million, this project will include concrete roadway reconstruction, traffic signal and signage improvements, ADA curb cut ramp and pavement marking installation, drainage improvements, retaining wall rehabilitation, bridge preservation work, and other miscellaneous construction on East Ohio Street (Route 4084) , East Street (Route 4099) and Madison Avenue. Additional work includes bike lane installation on East Ohio Street. Traffic will be maintained on all three roadways throughout the duration of the project. Various ramps and bridges will experience closures with posted detours in 2016. Work is set to be complete in October 2016.

Glenwood Bridge Ramps
Preparatory work is anticipated to begin in August of 2015, with major bridge rehabilitation work starting in 2016, on this estimated $14-17 million project. Six structures in the Glenwood Bridge Interchange will undergo rehabilitation work including deck replacement and concrete substructure repairs. Additionally, steel repairs and painting will occur on four bridges. Sign structure replacement and highway lighting improvements are also included in the project. Traffic will be maintained for the majority of the project; however short-term detours may be required. The project will conclude at the end of the 2016 construction season.

Tri-Boro Bridge Painting
The final phase of the Tri-Boro Bridge project is set to begin in March and end in November 2015. Painting will occur on previously rehabilitated ramps on the Tri-Boro Bridge in East Pittsburgh Borough. Traffic will be maintained with one lane in each direction during the painting operations. The cost of the project is $4.01 million.

Washington Pike Bridge over Coal Run (Route 3003)
Work to replace and improve the bridge that carries Route 3003 Washington Pike over Coal Run near Bursca Drive in South Fayette Township is anticipated to begin in April. The $1.46 million project will continue through late 2015. Traffic will be maintained during

construction. Large trucks will be detoured. A temporary structure will be constructed to accommodate pedestrians.

Liberty Bridge
Work is set to begin late summer on an estimated $80-85 million project to rehabilitate the Liberty Bridge in the City of Pittsburgh. Improvements will include deck replacement, structural steel repairs and painting, concrete repairs, signage improvements and the installation of a new alternating lane control system. Traffic restrictions will occur during off-peak hours throughout the life of the project; however long-term ramp closures at the Boulevard of the Allies will occur and the bridge will be restricted to three lanes for the majority of 2016. Additionally, six full weekend bridge closures will occur in 2017. Overall work will conclude in fall of 2017.

Route 4003 McKnight Road over Pine Creek
Work will begin in May on this estimated $5-8 million McKnight Road (Route 4003) bridge rehabilitation and preservation project. The project will improve three existing bridges including structures that carry McKnight Road over Ingomar Road, Pine Creek, and Route 19. Traffic will be restricted to a single lane in each direction throughout the duration of the project. Work is expected to be completed in August 2016.

Route 1001 Freeport Road Signals
Signal replacement and upgrade work has begun on Freeport Road (Route 1001) in the City of Pittsburgh, O'Hara Township and Aspinwall and Blawnox boroughs. Improvements will be made at 12 different intersections on this $738,798 project. Single-lane alternating traffic will occur weekdays through mid-October 2015.

Group Resurfacing Contracts
The routes listed below will be milled and resurfaced with drainage improvements and minor rehabilitation in 2015 under contract group projects (work areas may be subject to change):

- **Washington Avenue (Route 50)** from Chartiers Street (Route 3034) to approximately Station Street (Route 3005) in Bridgeville Borough;
- **Baptist Road (Route 3009)** from Higbee Road to Kevin Drive in the Municipality of Bethel Park Borough;
- **Brodhead Road (Route 3077)** from University Boulevard (Route 3109) to Flaugherty Run Road (Route 3089) in Moon Township;
- **Beaver Grade Road (Route 3077)** from Steubenville Pike (Route 60) to Clever Road (Route 3072) in Robinson Township;
- **Ben Avon Heights Road (Route 4021)** from Camp Horne Road to Plaza Entrance Road in Ohio Township;
- **Babcock Boulevard (Route 4011)** from Evergreen Road (Route 4009) to McKnight Road ramps in Ross Township;
- **Nicholson Road (Route 4049)** from Mt. Nebo Road (Route 4022) Ohio Township to Rochester Road (Route 4011) in Franklin Park Borough;
- **Forest Grove Road (Route 3085)** from Ewings Mill Road (Route 3074) to

Coraopolis Boulevard (Route 51) in Robinson Township;

- **Freeport Road/Pittsburgh Street (Route 1001)** from Pearl Avenue (Route 1015) in Harmar Township to Pillow Avenue (Route 1017) in Cheswick Borough;
- **Allegheny River Boulevard (Route 2073)** from Sandy Creek Road (Route 130) in the Municipality of Penn Hills to James Street in Verona Borough;
- **Freeport Road (Route 1001)** from Clifton Avenue in O'Hara Township to Route 910 in Harmar Township;
- **Allegheny Avenue (Route 2073)** from College Avenue to Hulton Road (Route 2082) in Oakmont Borough;
- **Hulton Road (Route 2058)** from Hulton Road (Route 2074) in the Municipality of Penn Hills to Coxcomb Hill Road (Route 2082) in Plum Borough;
- **Washington Boulevard (Route 8)** from Frankstown Avenue to Allegheny River Boulevard (Route 2073) in the City of Pittsburgh;
- **Penn Avenue (Route 8)** from the Port Authority Busway in Wilkinsburg Borough to 5th Avenue in the City of Pittsburgh;
- **Beulah Road (Route 130)** from McCrady Road to Lewin Lane in Churchill Borough; and
- **McKee Road (Route 2035)** from Jacks Run Road (Route 48) White Oak Borough to Lincoln Highway (Route 30) in North Versailles Township.

In addition to the work listed above, District 11 will be making many improvements to the transportation system in Allegheny County through various County Maintenance activities. District 11 will also be performing numerous bridge preservation and washing projects around the county in a continuing effort to address critical bridge needs. Visit www.state.pa.us/district11 for more information on PennDOT activities in Allegheny County.

Work Zone Safety Tips

In high traffic locations, motorists are encouraged to use both lanes of travel to the merge point. Once at the merge point, motorists are encouraged to **take turns** merging into the open lane and continue through the work zone. When motorists cooperate and use the late merge system, it will create a zipper like effect with traffic which will reduce the length of the queue, allow traffic to move more fluidly and also prevent aggressive merging.

If you encounter our work zones, please keep the following tips in mind for your safety and the safety of highway workers:

- Drive the posted work-zone speed limit;
- Stay alert and pay close attention to signs and flaggers;
- Turn on your headlights;
- Maintain a safe distance around vehicles, don´t tailgate;
- Use four-way flashers when stopped or traveling slowly;
- Avoid distractions and give your full attention to the road;
- Always buckle up;
- Expect the unexpected,
- Be patient.

Work Zone Laws - Pennsylvania´s work zone safety laws are designed to protect both

highway workers and motorists:
Posted work zones - Headlights On - All motorists are required to travel with their headlights turned on in all posted work zones, not just active work zones. It is necessary for drivers in vehicles with daytime running lights to turn on their headlights in order to activate their taillights.
Active Work Zones - Posting of Active Work Zones - Active work zones are designated by a white flashing light attached to an “Active Work Zone” sign to notify motorists when they enter and leave the work zone. The flashing light will only be activated when workers are present and turned off when workers are not present.

Fifteen-Day Loss of License for Driving Dangerously - Motorists caught driving 11 miles per hour or more above the posted speed limit in an active work zone, or who are involved in a crash in an active work zone and are convicted for failing to drive at a safe speed, will automatically lose their license for 15 days.
Fines Doubled/Jail Time Increased - Fines for certain traffic violations - including speeding, driving under the influence, and failure to obey traffic devices - are doubled for active work zones. Also, the law provides for up to five years of additional jail time for individuals convicted of homicide by vehicle for a crash that occurred in an active work zone.
To receive press releases and traffic advisories from PennDOT District 11, send your email address to stcowan@pa.gov. Information on key projects is also available on District 11’s construction hotline number, 412-429-6035.

Motorists can check conditions on major roadways by visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA, which is free and available 24 hours a day, provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information and access to more than 680 traffic cameras. 511PA is also available by calling 5-1-1, and regional Twitter alerts are available on the 511PA website.

MEDIA CONTACT: Steve Cowan, 412-429-5010

# # #