

Northeastern Extension Total Reconstruction & Widening Project

Mid-County Interchange to the Lansdale Interchange • Montgomery County, PA

Summer 2016 • Issue #18







Northern Section: Construction Update

Similar to the completed Southern Section of the project (MP 21 – MP 25), the Northern Section (MP 26 – MP 31) is focused on expanding the roadway from two lanes to three lanes in both the northbound and southbound directions. When completed, this section will have wider travel lanes, wider shoulders, and an expanded median.

Traffic Switches

The traffic switch to the new lanes (future right lane and shoulder) has been completed in the areas north of the Lansdale Interchange and south of South Valley Forge Road. The



Scan the QR code with your smart phone to visit the project website.

remaining road work in the center of the project will be accomplished in stages. Weather permitting, the traffic switch onto the new northbound lanes is expected in early November and the switch onto the new southbound lanes is expected in mid- to late-November.

Auxiliary Ramps

The auxiliary ramps at the Lansdale Interchange will follow the same schedule as the traffic switches, since the paving in the center of the project must be completed before the auxiliary ramps can tie into the mainline of the Northeastern Extension.

The E-ZPass-only northbound exit ramp is expected to open in early November, and the E-ZPass-only ramp accessing the southbound lanes is expected to be completed in mid- to late-November.

On-Going Construction

Sound wall installation, bridge work, excavation, retaining walls, and drainage tasks will be on-going throughout the remainder of the project as construction continues to progress towards the overall contract completion date of June 2017. The contractor has the option to prioritize the means and methods necessary to meet the target completion date.

An Open House will be scheduled following the last traffic switch.

In this Issue

Northern Section: Construction Update

Lansdale Interchange Improvements

Operation Orange Squeeze

Progress Photos





Lansdale Interchange Improvements

The Lansdale Interchange is the tenth busiest interchange systemwide and the third busiest on the Northeastern Extension. When the total reconstruction and widening project is completed, the interchange will be vastly different and improved.

The ramp-bridge which carries exiting and entering southbound I-476 traffic

to and from the interchange was demolished and a new bridge and ramps are being constructed. A new entry ramp to northbound I-476 will provide a longer approach for merging traffic.

Construction of the three auxiliary ramps is progressing.

By the Numbers

70 total interchanges systemwide.

10 interchanges on the Northeastern Extension.

30 million vehicles use the Mid-County interchange annually.

64,500 vehicles travel A20 to A31 every day.

28,000 vehicles a day pass through the Lansdale interchange.

Ramp I allows traffic from Towamencin Avenue to enter the toll plaza avoiding Sumneytown Pike.

Ramp B-1 (E-ZPass only) allows traffic to access southbound I-476 from Sumneytown Pike at the intersection with Old Forty Foot Road.

Ramp F-1 (E-ZPass only) allows traffic to exit northbound I-476 and access Sumneytown Pike.



The safety of workers and travelers is the PA Turnpike's top priority. It's an even greater concern in work zones.

To enforce work zone speed limits, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission has teamed up with the Pennsylvania State Police for Operation Orange Squeeze. All across the Turnpike,

troopers are monitoring work zones from construction vehicles.

Penalties for unsafe driving in work zones can be significant. Fines can be as high as \$200 with five points added to your license. Driving 11 mph or more over the speed limit in an active work zone is all it takes to lose your license for 15 days.

In the A26-A31 work zone, the posted 55 mph speed limit restrictions are in effect 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Please drive safely and obey the posted speed limits.

Safety Numbers

6,000 citations issued in PA Turnpike construction zones in 2015.

400 crashes in PA Turnpike work zones in 2015.

2 PA Turnpike workers killed in work zones in the last five years.

Learn more at:

www.operationorangesqueeze.com

Mid-County Interchange to the Lansdale Interchange • Montgomery County, PA

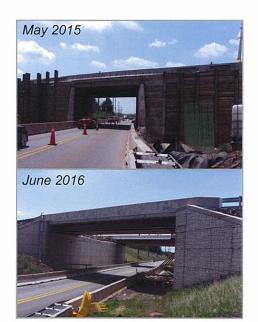
Progress Photos

While driving through the work zones, motorists can see many construction activities going on simultaneously. The project includes construction of bridges, drainage systems, and new sound walls, retaining walls, and ramps.

Here are a few photographs showing construction progress on some of the on-going activities.



Arch Culvert. Left: Forming of the new arch culvert. Right: Fully-constructed new culvert.



Wambold Bridge

Top: Construction of new bridge sections next to the original bridge. **Bottom:** New sections that carry bridge traffic until the middle section of the roadway is completed.



E-ZPass Auxiliary Ramp B-1. *Left:* Excavation for the new ramp. *Right:* Ramp with new concrete pavement.



E-ZPass Auxiliary Ramp F-1. Left: Rough graded outline of the new ramp. Right: New ramp with completed concrete pavement, traffic barriers, and *E-ZPass gantries*.

Project Team Contact Information

Joe Serbu, P.E.

Senior Engineer Project Manager PTC–Eastern Regional Office (610) 313-6348 jserbu@paturnpike.com

Kathleen Walter

Public Information Manager–East PTC–Eastern Regional Office (610) 313-6383 kwalter@paturnpike.com

Jim Au, P.E.

Construction Project Manager McTish, Kunkel & Associates (215) 361-2945 jau@mctish.com

Casey Waller

Public Involvement Specialist KCI Technologies, Inc. (717) 516-7602 casey.waller@kci.com

■ Northeastern Extension Total Reconstruction & Widening Project



Mid-County Interchange to the Lansdale Interchange • Montgomery County, PA

Subscribe now and send your comments online at www.patpconstruction.com	Ubscriptions: NEXT project newsletter by E-mail (e-mail req'd) Next project newsletter (by mail neq'd) Next project newsletter (by mail req'd)
.or e-mail to: casey.waller@kci.com	Y State Zip Code
Detach this form and mail to: Casey Waller KCI Technologies, Inc. 5001 Louise Drive, Suite 201 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055	ime (Please print legibly) 4 dress
	omments or Questions?

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission P.O. Box 67676 Harrisburg, PA 17106-7676

