



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2019

Atherton Street Project Update for Late June

State College, PA -- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is issuing a **late June** update for its North Atherton Street (Route 3014) project in State College.

Work will carry through 2019, with **phased** work zones stretching from Aaron Drive to Park Avenue. Work includes relocation of numerous utility lines, relocation of sewer and water lines, drainage improvements, curbing, sidewalks, ADA ramps, traffic signal upgrades, new concrete median, and paving.

The project page for this work can be found at www.penndot.gov/AthertonStreet.

Motorists **can expect** the following **June 24 through 28**:

- **West Aaron Drive to Park Avenue—entire length of project:**
 - ❖ **When traffic control is reduced to a single lane heading toward the University near the Park Avenue intersection, left turns will be restricted between 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. to maintain the flow of traffic.**
 - ❖ **Portions of sidewalk are currently removed on both sides of Atherton Street between Cherry Lane and Hillcrest Avenue. Signing is in place directing pedestrian traffic to use side streets.**
 - ❖ **Pedestrian safety is important.** Currently pedestrians can cross Atherton Street using the intersections at **Aaron Drive, North Hills Place, Blue Course Drive, Hillcrest Avenue, and Park Avenue. Crossing at other locations is not recommended.**
 - ❖ **Motorists are reminded the speed limit remains reduced to 25 MPH from Aaron Drive to the State College Borough line near Mitchell Avenue. This speed reduction will be in place until project completion in October of 2019. The speed limit from Mitchell Avenue to Park Avenue within State College Borough is already permanently posted at 25 MPH.**
 - ❖ **Motorists are also reminded not to block signalized intersections while the signal is red.** This prevents traffic from side streets from crossing the roadway. **It is also a violation of the vehicle code enforceable by fine.**
 - ❖ **Drivers are reminded to “share the road” and be alert for pedestrians, bicyclists, and buses as they move through this work zone.**
- **West Aaron Drive to Blue Course Drive:**
 - ❖ **No work anticipated**

- **Blue Course Drive to Hillcrest Avenue:**

- ❖ The long-term lane closure on the far-left side of Atherton Street heading toward the University will remain in place. The lane closure is in place to perform drainage, curbing, and sidewalk installation in the area. While the contractor is working, traffic will be reduced to a single lane for outbound traffic from the University and two lanes will remain open to traffic heading toward the University. **While the contractor is NOT working, two lanes will remain open for inbound traffic and two lanes will remain open for outbound traffic. The center turning lane will remain closed at all times.**
- ❖ **On Thursday, June 27, the contractor will be removing the long-term work zone on the left side of Atherton Street. Work will involve line eradication and line painting. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane for both inbound and outbound traffic from the University. Delays are to be expected. Once this work is completed, the permanent signal will be activated once again at Cherry Lane—including the pedestrian signal heads for the crossing of Atherton Street.**
- ❖ **Village Drive and Cherry Lane**, which are both on the left side of Atherton Street heading toward the University, will each be closed at various times throughout the week. These closures are necessary **to continue** to install drainage, pave pipe trenches, or install curbing. Message boards will indicate when the street closures are in place, so alternate routes can be used.
- ❖ Portions of sidewalk are currently removed on both sides on Atherton Street between Cherry Lane and Hillcrest Avenue. Signing is in place directing pedestrian traffic to use side streets.
- ❖ Due to a temporary signal being installed, there are no pedestrian signal heads activated for the crossing of Atherton Street at Cherry lane. Signing is in place detouring pedestrians to the Blue Course Drive intersection.

- **Hillcrest Avenue to Park Avenue:**

- ❖ The contractor will be installing drainage on the left side of Atherton Street traveling toward the University using daylight traffic control setups. Traffic will be restricted to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University during daylight hours.

- **Park Avenue to Curtin Road:**

- ❖ No work anticipated.

- **Additionally:**

Flaggers may be present in the roadway directing traffic and traffic may be stopped for short periods of time. **Please be patient and courteous to other drivers.** Do not follow construction equipment into a closed lane.

Motorists are asked to use both lanes to the merge points throughout the work zone. This will minimize traffic backlogs and travel delays in the work zone.

Property owners are encouraged to approach workers on the project if they need assistance entering or exiting their properties. The contractor is aware of the necessity to move equipment and/or plate over excavations quickly and safely to allow for access.

All work is weather and schedule dependent. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc. of State College is the contractor on this \$12.8 million job. **Drivers are reminded to move through work zones with caution, obey posted speed limits, and always buckle up.**

PennDOT reminds drivers that they can subscribe to PennDOT news in Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Juniata, McKean, Mifflin, and Potter counties at www.penndot.gov/District2.

PennDOT encourages drivers to “Know before they go” and to check conditions on more than 40,000 roadway miles by visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA is free, available 24 hours a day, and provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information, and access to more than **950** traffic cameras.

511PA is also available through a smartphone application for iPhone and Android devices, by calling 5-1-1, or by following regional Twitter alerts accessible on the 511PA website.

For regional updates on Twitter, follow www.twitter.com/511PAStateColl

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