



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Atherton Street Project Update for Early July

State College, PA -- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is issuing an **early July** 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 **July 8 through 11**:

- **West Aaron Drive to Park Avenue—entire length of project:**
 - ❖ **No additional lane closures will be implemented from Wednesday, July 10 through Sunday, July 14 due to the Central Pennsylvania Festival of the Arts. Two lanes will remain open in both directions throughout the length of the project on these days.**
 - ❖ **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, Cherry Lane, Hillcrest Avenue and Curtin Road. 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 Hillcrest Avenue:**
 - ❖ No work anticipated

Hillcrest Avenue to Park Avenue:

- ❖ **Due to a temporary signal being installed currently, there are no pedestrian signal heads activated for the crossing of Atherton Street at Park Avenue. Signing is in place detouring pedestrian traffic to the Curtin Road intersection.**
- ❖ **Hillcrest Avenue, Arbor Way, and Ridge Avenue on the right side of Atherton Street heading toward the University, will be closed at various times on Monday and Tuesday to prepare for and install concrete curb and sidewalk. Message boards will indicate when the street closures are in place, so alternate routes can be used.**
- ❖ The long-term lane closure on the far-right side of Atherton Street traveling toward the University will remain in place. The lane closure is in place to install curbing and sidewalk in this area. While the contractor is working, traffic will be reduced to a single lane for inbound traffic toward the University and two lanes remain open for outbound traffic leaving 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.

- **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

Media Contact: Marla Fannin (814) 765-0423, Timothy Nebgen (814) 765-0598

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