



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 22, 2019

Atherton Street Project Update for End of August

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

Work this year will carry through November and will finish up in spring of 2020. Phased work zones stretch 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 August 26 through September 2:

- **West Aaron Drive to Park Avenue—entire length of project:**
 - ❖ **No additional lane closures will be implemented Friday August 30, Saturday, August 31, Sunday, September 1, and Monday, September 2 due to a PSU home football game and the observance of the Labor Day holiday. Two lanes will remain open in each direction to and from the University.**
 - ❖ Through September, there will be no pedestrian signal heads at the Park Avenue/Atherton Street intersection. In the interest of public safety, no pedestrian crossing is allowed at this location.
 - ❖ Pedestrians can cross Atherton Street using intersections at Aaron Drive, North Hills Place, Blue Course Drive, Cherry Lane, Hillcrest Avenue, and Curtin Road.
 - ❖ 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.
 - ❖ 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.
 - ❖ **Milling and repaving of the entire project is scheduled to take place in September on a 24/7 basis. Exact dates will be announced in next week's update.**
 - ❖ **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.
- ❖ **Customers using CATA bus service are encouraged to visit the CATA web site for full information on bus stop locations, rider alerts, and service levels.**
- **West Aaron Drive to Blue Course Drive:**
 - ❖ The contractor will be performing full depth transverse pavement repairs where necessary. During daylight hours, traffic will be reduced to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University.
- **Blue Course Drive to Cherry Lane:**
 - ❖ The contractor will be installing curb and sidewalk in the vicinity of the previously installed box culvert.
- **Cherry Lane to Curtin Road:**
 - ❖ Work is being added this year that will extend the Park Avenue turning lane heading away from the University. It will widen the roadway and install new curbing from Park Avenue to Curtin Road. The contractor anticipates completing most of this work by the end of November 2019. The remaining work will take place in the spring of 2020 and will include drainage and casing installation for future development, roadway widening, traffic signal upgrades, curbing and ADA compliant curb ramp installation. Adding this work to the current contract will eliminate the need to restrict pedestrians from crossing Atherton Street at Park Avenue during the next phase of the project.
 - ❖ The long-term lane closure on the far-left side of Atherton Street traveling toward the University will remain in place to widen the roadway and install curbing and sidewalk in this 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 for inbound traffic traveling toward the University. While the contractor is **not working**, two lanes will remain open for outbound traffic and two lanes will remain open for inbound traffic. The center turning lane will remain closed and all times.
 - ❖ **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.**
 - ❖ Woodland Drive, Hillcrest Avenue, and Ridge Avenue on the left side of Atherton Street heading toward the University, will be closed at various times throughout the week 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. Park Avenue will remain open on both sides of Atherton Street.

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.

Motorists are also reminded not to block signalized intersections when the signal is red as this prevents traffic from side streets to cross. This is a finable traffic offense.

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/511PASStateColl

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

#