



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 12, 2019

## **Atherton Street Project Update for mid-September**

*Paving to begin September 16*

**State College, PA --** The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is issuing a **mid-September** 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](http://www.penndot.gov/AthertonStreet).

Motorists can expect the following **September 13 through September 20:**

- ❖ The milling and repaving of the entire project is to take place beginning on Monday, September 16 on a 24/7 basis. This work is expected to last three weeks and is weather dependent. Milling and paving are expected to be performed between Aaron Drive and Blue Course Drive the week of September 16. The outside lanes are to be completed first. The inside lanes—including the center turn lane—are to be completed last. Flaggers are to be stationed near business entrances to assist with traffic movements. When the inside lanes are being milled and paved, left turns will be prohibited through the work area. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane in both directions. Travel delays are to be expected in this area.
- ❖ **Pedestrian Safety:**
  - ❖ The new signal at the Park Avenue/Atherton Street intersection is in operation. Pedestrians may now cross at this location.
  - ❖ Pedestrians can cross Atherton Street using intersections at Aaron Drive, North Hills Place, Blue Course Drive, Cherry Lane, Hillcrest Avenue, Park Avenue, and Curtin Road.
  - ❖ With the Penn State/Pitt football game bringing large numbers of people through the area, PennDOT reminds walkers and bicyclists to use caution crossing intersections and to be alert for moving vehicles.
  - ❖ 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.

- ❖ 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 Curtin Road—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.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ 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.

❖ Aaron Drive to Blue Course Drive:

- ❖ **The milling and repaving of the entire project is to take place beginning on September 16 on a 24/7 basis. This work is expected to last 3 weeks and is weather dependent. Milling and paving is expected to be performed between Aaron Drive and Blue Course Drive this week. The outside lanes are to be completed first. The inside lanes including the center turning lane are to be completed last. Flaggers are to be stationed near business entrances to assist with traffic movements. When inside lanes are being milled and paved, left turns will be prohibited through the work area. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane in both directions. Travel delays are to be expected in this area.**

❖ Blue Course Drive to Cherry Lane:

- ❖ **The contractor will be installing curb and sidewalk in this area. Traffic will be reduced to a single lane in both directions during daylight hours.**

❖ Cherry Lane to Curtin Road:

- ❖ No significant work anticipated.
- ❖ **The new signal at the Park Avenue/Atherton Street intersection is in operation. Pedestrians may now cross at this location.**

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](http://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](http://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](http://www.twitter.com/511PASStateColl)

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