



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2019

PennDOT Issues Atherton Street Project Update for mid-April

State College, PA -- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is issuing a mid-April 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 **April 15 through 19**:

- **West Aaron Drive to Park Avenue—entire length of project:**
 - ❖ A speed minder remains in place between Cherry Lane and Hillcrest Avenue heading toward the University. It displays motorists' speed, reminding them to obey the posted speed limit of 25 MPH.
 - ❖ 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.**
 - ❖ **Pedestrian safety is important.** Currently pedestrians can cross Atherton Street using the intersections at **Aaron Drive, Hillcrest Avenue, Park Avenue, and Blue Course Drive. Crossing at other locations is not recommended.**
 - ❖ 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:**
 - ❖ **The contractor will perform signal upgrade work at the North Hills Place intersection. Traffic control will consist of daylight lane closures limiting traffic to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University.**

- **Blue Course Drive to Cherry Lane:**
 - ❖ The contractor will install sewer line on the left side of Atherton Street heading toward the University, specifically near Big Hollow. Traffic will be restricted to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University.
 - ❖ The contractor will perform signal upgrade work at the Cherry Lane intersection. Traffic control will consist of daylight lane closures limiting traffic to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University.

- **Cherry Lane to Hillcrest Avenue:**
 - ❖ No work anticipated.

- **Hillcrest Avenue to Ridge Avenue—Right:**
 - ❖ The contractor will be installing drainage on the right side of Atherton Street traveling toward the University. Traffic control will consist of daylight lane closures limiting traffic to at least one lane heading toward the University and one lane leaving the University. There will be intermittent closures of Arbor Way and Ridge Avenue throughout the week. However, Hillcrest Avenue will remain open.

- **Cherry Lane to Park Avenue Left:**
 - ❖ Verizon will continue to perform fiber optic splicing on the left side of Atherton Street heading toward the University, **requiring a far, left lane closure. This work will take place during the daytime and nighttime hours throughout the week.**

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 860 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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