

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONSTRUCTION STARTING TO BUILD SUMNEYTOWN PIKE/ROUTE 309 CONNECTOR IN MONTGOMERY AND BUCKS COUNTIES

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) today announced that preliminary work is beginning this week on Lower Salford, Towamencin, Franconia and Hatfield townships the \$22.9 million project to build the western half of the Sumneytown Pike/Route 309 Connector in, Montgomery County.

In this, the first of two contracts to build the five-mile long Connector, PennDOT will build the new three-lane Sumneytown Pike between Old Forty Foot Road and Freed Roads and rebuild Wambold Road from Sumneytown Pike to Allentown Road. Eleven-foot travel lanes and five-foot to eight foot shoulders will be constructed on both the realigned Sumneytown Pike and the reconstructed Wambold Road.

The construction will require a one-way detour on Wambold Road for portions of the work. The project also will include the construction of two bridges on the new three-lane Sumneytown Pike alignment and the replacement of one bridge on Wambold Road.

“We excited to start the first of the two- phase project to build this new roadway that will provide a direct connection from Sumneytown Pike just north of the Pennsylvania Turnpike Interchange to Route 309,” PennDOT District Executive Lester Toaso said. “When fully completed, the Connector will enhance travel between the two major roadways and reduce traffic congestion on local roads.”

Construction crews will work over the first few weeks along Wambold Road, Fretz Road and Allentown Road to begin some preliminary operations. Crews will be surveying and clearing brush alongside portions of these roadways. Flagging will control traffic flow when crews need to close a travel lane.

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First add – Sumneytown Pike/Route 309 Connector

Later in October, crews will begin excavating where Sumneytown Pike is to be relocated between the intersections of Old Forty Foot Road and Freed Road. In addition, eight utility companies will be working over the next year to relocate their facilities as part of this project.

Over the next three years, several roads within the project area will be closed at certain times for reconstruction. A detour will be posted to guide motorists around the respective closure. The roads that are scheduled to be closed at some point during construction are Fretz Road, Allentown Road, Wambold Road, Freed Road, Old Forty Foot Road and Mainland Road.

Allan A. Myers, LP of Worcester, PA, is the general contractor for the construction of the western half of the Sumneytown Pike/Route 309 Connector. The \$22,941,595 project is financed with 80 percent federal and 20 percent state funds. Construction is scheduled to finish in late 2012.

PennDOT expects construction to start in 2016 to build the eastern half of the Connector between Allentown Road and Route 309.

Get PennDOT's local news releases, traffic bulletins and other information anytime at www.dot.state.pa.us/district6.

For more information, visit us through the Pennsylvania Homepage at www.state.pa.us or visit PennDOT directly at www.dot.state.pa.us.

Motorists are encouraged to report maintenance concerns to PennDOT by using its toll-free Roadway Maintenance Hotline at 1-800-FIX-ROAD (1-800-349-7623). The 1-800-FIX-ROAD number should not be used to report traffic accidents, disabled vehicles, or other emergencies. Motorists should continue to call 9-1-1 to report those types of emergencies.

PennDOT reminds motorists they can log on to 511pa.com or call 511 from any phone to check traffic conditions before heading out.

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