

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Engineering District 6-0
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PR 255
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***PENNDOT TO HOLD FIRST PUBLIC MEETING ON SUMNEYTOWN
PIKE/PA 309 CONNECTOR PROJECT IN MONTGOMERY & BUCKS
COUNTIES***

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA (October 16) -- The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) will hold a public meeting on Thursday, October 25 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. to inform the community of the plans for the Sumneytown Pike/State Route 309 Connector project in Lower Salford, Towamencin, Franconia and Hatfield townships in Montgomery County and Hilltown Township in Bucks County.

The meeting will be held in the Pennfield Middle School gymnasium at 726 Forty Foot Road in Hatfield.

PENNDOT District Administrator Andrew L. Warren said the public meeting will be conducted as an open-house workshop where citizens can view the project's status on displays, maps and charts. PENNDOT representatives and environmental, traffic and historical specialists will be on hand to answer questions and field any comments and suggestions.

Work began this summer on the environmental and preliminary engineering phase of the project to build a new two-lane road to connect Sumneytown Pike at Wambold Road to State Route 309 in the vicinity of Township Line Road. This improvement is designed to reduce traffic congestion and provide motorists with safer, smoother and swifter travel through the Hatfield area.

The aim of the environmental and preliminary engineering phase is to identify a location for the new roadway that solves the current transportation problem, but minimizes impacts to these resources. In addition, traffic engineers are evaluating traffic management practices, such as adding signals or changing signal timings, adding turn lanes, and lane restriping.

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Environmental scientists and historical preservation specialists are developing a preliminary inventory of environmental and cultural resources in the study area. Historic resources will be addressed at the meeting. Any interested parties are invited to attend.

PENNDOT expects to complete the environmental/preliminary engineering study in late 2002, and then begin final design. Construction is expected to start in 2005 and take two years to complete.

Public parking at Pennfield Middle School can be accessed from the Forty Foot Road entrance to the school. Handicapped access to the gymnasium is available from the Elroy Road entrance.

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