

# Easton-Phillipsburg (Route 22) Toll Bridge Rehabilitation Project



## FACT SHEET

### PROJECT BACKGROUND

A nearly two-year project is underway to rehabilitate, repair and improve the Easton-Phillipsburg (Route 22) Toll Bridge, its approach roadways and bridges, adjoining toll plaza and nearby highway exit and entrance ramps.

The work is in response to in-depth inspection and pavement reports indicating the bridge's state of condition warranted a comprehensive rehabilitation. A scoping/concept study in 2011 developed a comprehensive plan of work elements that should be included in such a project.

Despite the project's broad scope of construction activities, the Commission is seeking to carry out the various work elements while keeping the bridge open to single lanes of traffic in both directions. For this reason, motorists should expect to encounter travel delays and detours when work is fully underway.

In 2014, single-lane travel patterns are expected to be in place from early-March to mid-December. These traffic restrictions are likely to cause congestion and delays in both Easton and Phillipsburg – especially during peak periods. For this reason, motorists are advised to use I-78 as a travel alternative whenever possible. If travel through the work zone is necessary, motorists should allow extra time to reach their destinations or reschedule their trips to non-peak periods.

### PRE-PROJECT CONDITIONS

- Leaking, deteriorated and open deck joints at several structures
- Corrosion of joint-supporting steel members
- Excessive pack rust due to corrosion between the toll bridge's eyebar connections and gusset plates
- Corrosion of deck-supporting steel members, especially at open curb areas that drain onto structural steel supports
- Medium-to-wide cracking along expansive pavement areas
- Numerous cracks and deck patches at floor beams for the toll bridge and the Broad Street Viaduct on the New Jersey side
- Considerable rutting and shoving of pavement patching in the project area
- Cracks and repaired potholes in numerous concrete pavement slabs and along slab joints
- Lighting throughout the area no longer meets current illumination standards

### PROJECT GOALS

- Increase the lifespan of the bridge
- Enhance safety
- Prevent major repairs and long-term travel lane closures for a minimum 15 years



### 2014 WORK/TRAVEL SCHEDULE

- Single-lane Route 22 travel start date: March 3
- Spring/Summer work zone: upstream side of bridge
- Fall work zone: center section of bridge
- Overhead painting on suspended scaffold
- Travel restrictions' target end date: mid-December

### ANTICIPATED MAJOR PROJECT ELEMENTS

- Pavement repairs and reconstruction throughout project area
- Main Toll Bridge and Broad Street Viaduct
  - ◊ Deck removal and replacement
  - ◊ Safe removal of lead paint surfaces; repainting of all structural steel
  - ◊ Rehabilitation/replacement of deck drainage system
  - ◊ Structural steel and substructure repairs
  - ◊ Pedestrian railing rehabilitation
- Remove and replace Route 22 approach bridge over PA Route 611
- Construct ADA-compliant ramp to tunnel under Route 22 at Bushkill Street
- Replace roadway, bridge lighting throughout project area
  - ◊ Lighting on Snyder Street will match Easton street-scapes
- Approach bridges at Bank Street, Third Street
  - ◊ Replace bearings
  - ◊ Mill and resurface bridge decks
  - ◊ Clean and paint structural steel supports
- Electrical upgrades to toll plaza/administration building
- Repairs and painting to toll booths

### 2014 TRAVEL IMPACTS

- Closures of one travel lane in each direction on Route 22 for nine months (March into December)
- Various closures of westbound Route 22 exit/entry ramps in Easton (Detour routes will be posted)
- Closure of Route 611 under Route 22 from March through July - (Detour routes will be posted)
- Lane closures at toll plaza in Phillipsburg
- Motorists should anticipate travel delays or plan alternate routes during peak commuting periods

Project webpage – [www.drjtbc.org/tollbridgerehab](http://www.drjtbc.org/tollbridgerehab)

For Additional Information, Contact:

Director of Community Affairs Rich McClellan

267-790-1063

[rmcclellan@drjtbc.org](mailto:rmcclellan@drjtbc.org)