



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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May 12, 2011

John A. Lawrence, Member
Capitol Office
P. O. Box 202013
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2013

SR 0472 Section 004, Bridge Rehabilitation
Lancaster and Chester Counties

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

This is in regards to your May 9th correspondence regarding the State Route (SR) 0472, Section 004, Octoraro Bridge rehabilitation project. Based on the recent public interest in the project the District has re-evaluated our method to construct the project. It is still our intention to replacing the existing superstructure of the SR 472 bridge. The bridge, which was constructed in the 1950's, is structurally deficient and is reaching the end of its service life.

The rehabilitation work will remove the deficiency and extend the service life of the entire structure. The substructure units are in good condition, so no work within the reservoir is anticipated. Widening the structure to accommodate additional lanes is not part of the project. After construction is complete, the structure will continue to accommodate an 11' through lane in each direction and 2' shoulders. To complete the rehabilitation work, we will phase construction to maintain one lane of traffic on the structure during construction. The directional flow of traffic will be controlled by temporary traffic signals. To provide room for the contractor to work on the structure, the lane width for motorists will have to be restricted. We expect the narrow lanes will significantly reduce travel speeds through the work zone, so traffic back-ups and delays can be expected. A detour route will be established for trucks and wide loads that cannot meet the width restriction. We expect four weekend closures of SR 472 will be necessary in order to complete the construction. The exact times and dates of these closures have not yet been determined, but once they are established, the local community and public officials will be notified. We will coordinate our Traffic Control with Emergency services and the School Districts as well, since they may have to make adjustments to their routes due to accommodate the lane restrictions and the closures. The Maintenance and Protection of Traffic Plans are included in the contract as a Design/Build item, so exact details of the Traffic Control Plan will not be available until later this year.

The Department intends to bid this project in the summer of 2011, but not close the road until early in 2012. This way the contractor can maximize the time for next construction season and complete their design/build activities over the winter. We expect the contractor will open the bridge to unrestricted traffic by late November 2012, with final construction activities completed in the spring of 2013.

If you have any questions or require additional information on this project, please contact Michael C. Lapano, Senior Project Manager by email at mlapano@state.pa.us or by phone at 717-787-7482.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tucker Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "T" and "F".

Tucker Ferguson, P.E.
District Executive