

# ROUTE 19 BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, PERRY TOWNSHIP, MERCER COUNTY

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The purpose of the project is to replace the existing bridge that carries Route 19 (Perry Highway) over the Little Shenango River in Perry Township, Mercer County, and to perform improvements to the roadway. The proposed project will include the replacement of the bridge, approach roadway reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, guide rail replacement, embankment stabilization, drainage improvements and signing/pavement marking upgrades.

The existing four-span rolled steel I-beam bridge was built in 1942 and is classified in poor condition. Approximately 2,100 vehicles use the roadway on average, with 21% truck traffic.

## PROJECT AREA

The project involves improvements through a 1.1-mile section of Route 19 from the intersection with Route 358 to about 600 feet north of the intersection with Fredonia Road (Route 1001) and Ohle Road in Perry Township, Mercer County.



## ANTICIPATED CONSTRUCTION

Construction activities are anticipated to start in 2026 and will be completed over two construction seasons.

## PROPOSED PLAN

**Bridge Replacement:** The project includes replacement of the bridge with a single span PA-Bulb Tee Beam superstructure with a composite deck on new abutments. To offset the slope instability at the approaches Geosynthetic Reinforced Slopes (GRS) slopes are proposed behind the abutments. Roadway work includes profile adjustment, embankment rock slopes, new guiderail and full depth pavement reconstruction.

**Approach Roadways:** The project will also rehabilitate portions of the road. Lanes and shoulders will be milled and overlaid, and base repairs will be applied in isolated areas as deemed necessary. To meet current design criteria, cross slope and superelevation corrections will be done on portions of the roadway. Existing guiderail will be replaced.

## TRAFFIC IMPACTS

A detour will be required during construction and is expected to be in place for approximately 12 months. The proposed detour for motorized vehicles is 24.5 miles and uses Route 358, Interstate 79, and Route 285.

Within the detour route, Route 19, Route 258 and Route 358 are designated as the Red Detour emergency route for I-79.

Route 19 is designated Bike Route A. The proposed detour for bicycles uses Fredonia Road and Route 358.

Some work will also require short-term lane restrictions with traffic controlled by flaggers.

## CONSTRUCTION FUNDING

The project has an estimated cost of \$7.5 to \$10 million and will be funded by a combination of state and federal funding. This project is funded in part by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

## CURRENT PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The purpose of the public comment period is to introduce the project and receive input regarding any questions or concerns with the project. It is also an opportunity for the public to review and comment on the project's potential effect upon Cultural Resources pursuant to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's 36 CFR Part 800 regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The project documents can be made available in alternative languages or formats if requested.

Comments and questions can be submitted to PennDOT, Project Manager Chris Boyer-Krantz at [chboyer@pa.gov](mailto:chboyer@pa.gov), 814-678-7379, or 255 Elm Street, Oil City, PA 16301. An online comment form for the Route 19 Bridge Replacement is also available at [www.penndot.pa.gov/District1](http://www.penndot.pa.gov/District1).