

FAQ

1. How much time will the detour add to my travel?
This detour will add 8 miles to travel.
2. How much will the project cost (typically answer with estimated construction cost)
Estimated construction cost is 650,000 dollars.
3. How many construction seasons will the project take?
It will take approximately 1 construction season.
4. How will residents know how much affected impact will be on their property?
This project design is still in the preliminary phase still. Once our team is in final design the acquisition team will reach out to discuss precise ROW takings if there are any.
5. Will there be wetland impact? (if there are wetlands within project limits)
There will be no permanent wetland impacts and only .008 acres will be temporarily impacted which falls within standards for the Chapter 105 GP-11 permit requirements. (This permit deals with any maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of water obstructions) (chapter 105 falls under pa code 25, environmental protection, and refers to dam safety and waterway management)
6. Are there endangered species in or around the project limits?
The project area does not meet the criteria required to be characterized as potential bog turtle habitats, this is due to the lack of springs/seeps and muddy soils in addition to the lack of habitat structures.
7. Are there any aesthetic treatments that will be done to the bridge?
None are anticipated at this time.
8. Is there a crash history?
There is history of crashes at the intersection just outside our project limits of Gilbertsville Rd and Grosser Rd and Thrush Drive.
9. Will I have no access to the roads during construction?
The contractor is required to maintain access to all driveways during construction. The bridge will be closed, and a detour will be established with only local traffic being permitted on Gilbertsville Rd.
10. How are the environmental impacts evaluated?
Environmental impacts are evaluated through a combination of field investigations and agency coordination.

First, field investigations identify the limits of regulated resources within and immediately adjacent to the project limits, which are then incorporated into the projects base mapping. As the design is progressed, it is also refined to minimize impacts to the greatest extent possible. Those impacts are then further coordinated with the regulatory agencies to verify the limits of impact and verify mitigation needs, if required.

Impacts and mitigation commitments are memorialized in the project Plans, Environmental Clearance document, and applicable permits that are obtained for the project prior to construction. During construction, the plans and permits are implemented, and inspections are completed to verify that the work is completed accordingly.

11. Will flooding in the area increase or decrease?

Flooding will not increase based on H&H analysis.

12. Is the bridge currently safe?

Bridges are inspected on a routine bases of 2 years to inspect the safety of it. This bridge is deemed still safe to travel.

13. Will there be any utility impacts?

Estimated that 3 poles may need to be relocated but this is still in preliminary design and may change.

14. Is it possible to keep SR 4040 open during construction?

It was determined that the impact to traffic with a one lane operation would be too great and construction duration would increase. So, the decision was made to proceed with a detour.

15. Will there be access for emergency services?

Emergency services will be expected to work around the closed bridge. They are invited to stakeholder meetings.

16. Will additional flow through the bridge cause a disruption downstream?

Even though the proposed project does include a larger opening for water to flow through it will not affect the downstream flow of the project. The proposed conditions are expected to be the same if not better meaning that the water surface elevations will not increase.

17. Will the road closure effect buses?

School buses will also be expected to follow the detour. The school district was invited to stakeholder meetings.

18. What will the planned construction hours be?

This is entirely contractor choice. They will be aware of and in compliance with local noise ordinances.

19. Who will maintain the bridge after the project is completed?

This bridge is a state-owned bridge and will be maintained by the state after completion of construction.

20. Expectation of blasting?

Currently there is no expectation of blasting at this point.