

I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridge Project



www.penndot.pa.gov/i80LehighRiverBridge

Existing Bridges

Existing Bridge Statistics

User Profile:

Mix of commuters and interstate traffic, including a high percentage of trucks

Built:

1965

Average Daily Traffic

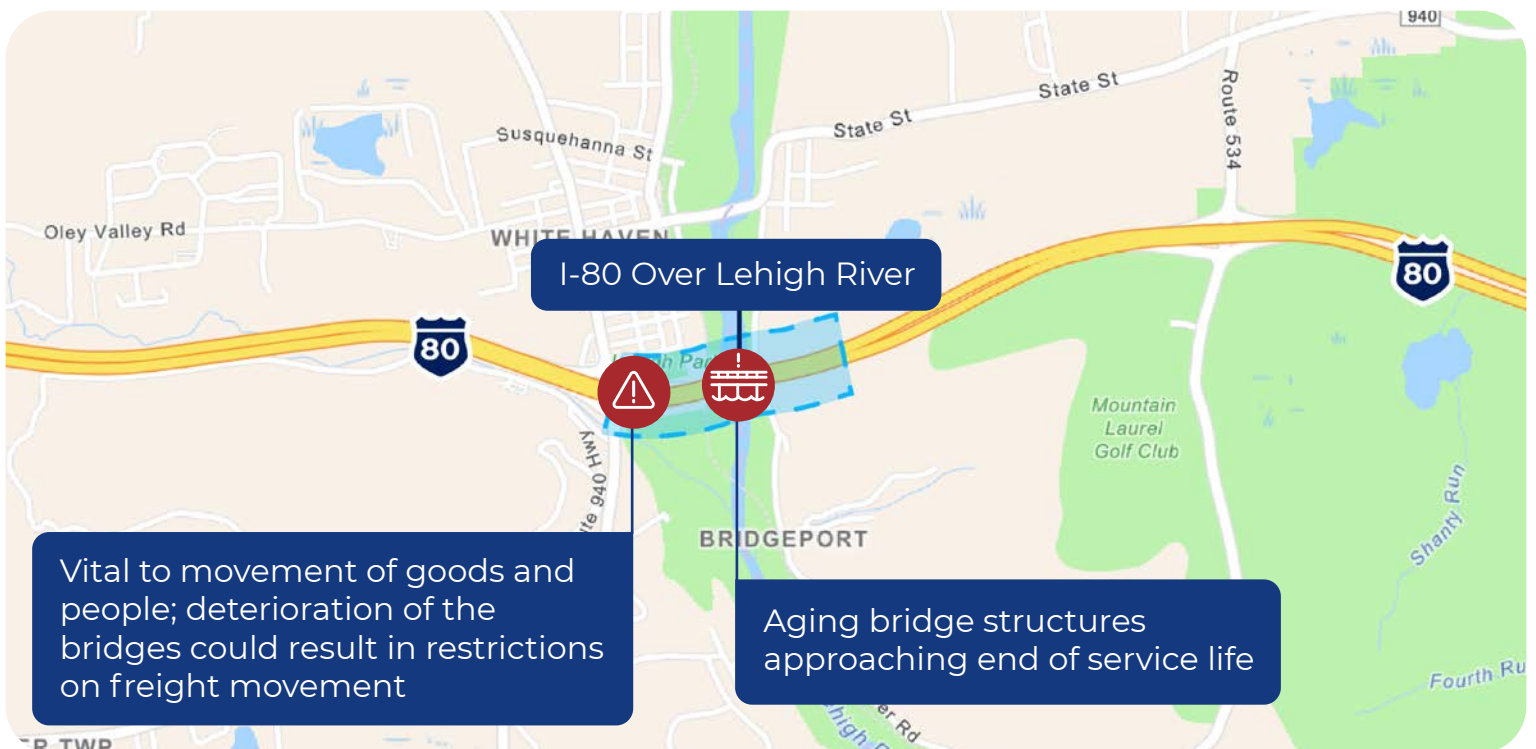
27,000 vehicles per day

Truck Traffic

44% of total vehicles

Why do we need to fix these bridges?

The purpose of the I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridge Project is to address the deterioration of the aging bridge structures and thereby provide safe and structurally sufficient bridges that will provide connectivity for interstate travelers, commuters, commercial users, emergency services, tourists and local residents. The project will replace the aging bridges with wider structures; increase the length of the eastbound on-ramp auxiliary lane, the height of the bridges' barriers and the width of the shoulders to meet current interstate design standards; and improve safety in the corridor.





Why replace the I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridges?

Rehabilitate

- ✓ Addresses some structural deficiencies
- ✗ Does not significantly extend service life of the bridges as they will remain fracture critical
- ✗ Does not improve the substandard shoulder widths and acceleration lane length
- ✗ Requires long-term lane closures on I-80 during construction
- ✗ Has shorter life span and higher life-cycle costs compared to Replacement alternative

Replace

- ✓ Meets the project's Purpose and Need
- ✓ Brings bridge design up to current design standards
- ✓ Provides shoulder widths and on-ramp acceleration length that meet current design criteria
- ✓ Minimizes durations of lane closures during construction
- ✓ Provides the longest anticipated life span (100 years) compared to Rehabilitation alternatives (10-25 years)

How will this benefit your region?

- Accommodate future growth in traffic volumes
- Benefits to freight travel
- Reliable transportation — less frequent repairs and maintenance

Revenue generated from bridge toll goes back into this project.

Estimated Construction Cost: \$60 million - \$75 million

The I-80 Over Lehigh River Bridge Project is critical and needs to be completed. If the bridges over the Lehigh River are funded by bridge tolling, funds would be freed up to allow other critical projects to continue to move forward in the region.

PennDOT's Major Bridge P3 Initiative is anticipated to invest approximately \$2.5 billion in the replacement and rehabilitation of major bridges across the state. Funding these bridges with tolls could free up enough funds* to either:

- Repave ~2,500 miles of highways
- or
- Build ~960 miles of new highway lanes
- or
- Replace ~8,600 miles of guiderail

* Based on 2020 infrastructure costs