

Frequently Asked Questions – City Avenue (U.S. 1) over SEPTA Rehabilitation Project

1. What are the project limits for the U.S. 1 over SEPTA Rehabilitation Project?

Answer: Along City Avenue, the approximate construction project limits extend from the intersection with North 50th Street to the intersection with Conshohocken State Road/Conshohocken Avenue. Temporary traffic Control (including lane shifts) will extend from approximately the intersection with Bryn Mawr Avenue to the intersection with North 47th Street.

2. What is the purpose and need of the project?

Answer: The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the existing U.S. 1 bridge over the SEPTA Cynwyd Line. The project is needed to address the poor condition of the existing structure. The underside of the arch exhibits severe spalling due to the migration of roadway drainage through the structure at the gutter lines. The abutments exhibit severe spalling due to leaking deck joints at the ends of the bridge.

3. What improvements are included in the project?

Answer: Rehabilitation of the existing arch structure including the removal of concrete, removal of fill over the existing arch and replacement of pavement, curb and sidewalk along City Avenue. Work also includes:

- Utility relocation and replacement (PECO Gas and Electric, Aqua, Verizon, PGW and PWD) .
- The existing wooden staircase on the NE corner of the bridge will be replaced with a new ADA compliant pedestrian ramp structure and stair assembly to provide improved access to SEPTA's Bala Train Station from U.S. 1.
- A new stair assembly on the SE side of the structure to access the future Parkside Cynwyd Trail planned by Lower Merion Township, which will also provide supplemental access to the SEPTA station.
- Replacement of the existing concrete and stone retaining wall separating City Avenue and the SEPTA driveway, NW of the bridge, with a new retaining wall.
- Resurfacing City Avenue within the project limits.
- New pavement markings and signing upgrades within the project limits.

4. What is the anticipated construction schedule?

Answer: Construction activities are anticipated to take two-years to complete.

5. How will construction impact residents and commuters?

Answer: Traffic impacts are necessary due to the rehabilitation efforts needed to improve the structure. Most construction staging will be accomplished by maintaining two lanes of traffic in each direction; however, some construction staging activities will require traffic to be reduced to one lane in each direction. Throughout construction:

- Access will be maintained to businesses and residences.
- Access will be maintained to SEPTA's Bala station access and the Cynwyd Line service will be maintained.
- Side streets will not be closed or detoured.

6. How will construction impact utility services?

Answer: Utility companies will assist the contractor in performing necessary relocations during the project construction. Utility relocation work will be coordinated to minimize service impacts.

7. How will the project address pedestrian safety during construction?

Answer: Pedestrian routes will be impacted during the rehabilitation of the structure. At least one sidewalk will be open and maintained across the structure at all times. Short and accessible pedestrian detours to the SEPTA Bala Station are included for each construction stage as needed. Pedestrian detour signing will be included during construction to clearly direct pedestrians to the accessible path.

8. Will there be any night work?

Answer: The majority of the construction activities are anticipated to occur during daytime hours; however, some construction activities are anticipated to occur over night when the SEPTA Cynwyd Line is not in service.

9. Will my property be impacted by this project?

Answer: All impacted property owners have already been contacted by the PennDOT Right-of-Way Unit.

10. How can I contact the project team with questions and concerns?

Answer: Please contact PennDOT Project Manager, George Gumas, PE, at 610-757-1877 or c-ggumas@pa.gov