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PA Turnpike Moving Forward to Finish Mon/Fayette Expressway

Public invited to see updated project design at open house plans displays in April.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission is moving forward with its plans for the Mon/Fayette Expressway PA Route 51 to I-376 Project in Allegheny County with public plans display open houses slated for early April.

The plans will focus on an eight-mile stretch of the Mon/Fayette Expressway (Turnpike 43) from PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills to PA Route 837 in Duquesne. The estimated \$900 million Jefferson Hills to Duquesne project is the southern portion of the larger, 14-mile project that will eventually extend the Mon/Fayette Expressway to Interstate 376 near Monroeville.

The Commission was able to move ahead with this project after the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission voted to support it last summer. "This long-awaited project, which we were mandated to build by the state legislature back in 1985, represents a significant investment in the Mon Valley that will enhance mobility and is expected to bring economic opportunities for the region," said PA Turnpike CEO Mark Compton.

The public will be able to review the project plans, ask questions and talk with right-of-way representatives. Interested parties can choose to attend one of three, identical plans display open houses:

- 6 to 8 p.m., Tuesday, April 3
- 6 to 8 p.m., Wednesday, April 4
- 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, April 5

These sessions will be hosted at the Georgetown Centre, 526 East Bruceton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236.

The plans on display will only show the project south of the Monongahela River, which includes people living in Jefferson Hills, West Mifflin, Dravosburg, City of Duquesne and the City of Clairton.

"We have the funding to start with this section of the project first which will begin with right-of-way acquisition," added Compton. It is anticipated that construction work could begin in 2021 with an estimated completion in 2026.

A 10-year, \$20-million contract was recently awarded to Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson Inc. (JMT) of Hunt Valley, Maryland, which also has a local office in the Pittsburgh area. JMT will oversee construction of this section from PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills to PA Route 837 in Duquesne by helping with planning and design through completion while also managing project time, cost and quality on behalf of the PA Turnpike.

For more information about the Mon/Fayette PA 51 to I-376 Project visit the website at www.paturnpikemonfayette.com.