

Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission
Mon/Fayette Transportation Project, PA Route 51 to I-376
Public Notice Regarding the Three Rivers Water Trail

The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission's Mon/Fayette Transportation Project, PA Route 51 to I-376 begins at an interchange with PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills Borough and proceeds north crossing the Monongahela River near Duquesne. After crossing the Monongahela River, the project proceeds northeast to an interchange with Interstate 376 (the Parkway East) near Monroeville.

Under Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966, the **Three Rivers Water Trail** is considered a Section 4(f) property as a publicly-owned water trail that serves a significant recreational purpose as a Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission designated water trail and a National Recreation Trail. **The Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission intends to request approval of a Section 4(f) *de minimis* finding for the impact to the Three Rivers Water Trail, which means that the project will not adversely affect the activities, features and attributes of the water trail.**

As part of the Mon/Fayette Project, a new bridge crossing the Monongahela River/Three Rivers Water Trail will be constructed at approximately river mile 11.8. (See map below.) The bridge will be a single cable stayed bridge with a main span length of 1,060 feet. One river pier will be required near the left descending bank, just downstream of the Thompson Run culvert outflow. The centerline of the river pier location is approximately 100 feet from the river bank. Within the river, the pier is 36 feet by 42 feet in size (1,512 sq ft). The bridge over the river consists of two 12-foot traffic lanes in each direction, with a 12-foot outside shoulder and 6-foot inside shoulder for each direction, separated by a median barrier. Vertical clearance over the river will be about 190 feet above normal pool elevation. An Aids to Navigation (ATON) Plan will be developed through coordination with the PA Fish and Boat Commission to assist water trail users through the area during bridge construction. Please note that the project is 14 miles in length and will be constructed using multiple smaller construction contracts. Construction is anticipated to start in 2021. Under the current schedule, construction would begin at the southern end of the project in Jefferson Hills and work northward connecting to Route 837 in the City of Duquesne. Construction would then proceed in a southerly direction from the northern project terminus in Monroeville to North Versailles Township. Construction of the Monongahela River bridge would be the final construction contract.

Water trail users with comments or concerns regarding the project's impact to the water trail can **provide comments in writing by October 11th, 2017** to **William C. Packer, Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission 700 S. Eisenhower Blvd., Middletown, PA 17057**, or wpacker@paturndpike.com.

