## **Making Connections - March 2023**



#### Construction Activity is Officially Underway for the Southern Section of the Mon/Fayette Expressway PA 51 to I-376 Project

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, funding is available to start the southern section, which stretches from PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills Borough to PA Route 837 in Duquesne, Allegheny County.

On March 8, an open house was held at the Jefferson Hills Borough Building for community members to see plans for the first construction section, 53A1, which extends about three miles from PA Route 51 to Coal Valley Road in Jefferson Hills Borough.

Approximately 100 community members attended, reviewed the plans, talked with project engineers and got their questions answered. For those who could not attend in person, the information is available on the project website (<u>www.paturnpike.com/monfayette</u>), along with a comment/question form that can be submitted to project engineers.

Trumbull Corporation was the winning bidder for this section. They have started the tree clearing process and will be working to put erosion and sediment controls in place while getting equipment and materials on sight to begin building the roadway.

Beginning April 3, approximately a one-mile section of Miller Road will be permanently closed between S.R. 885 and S.R. 837 in Jefferson Hills Borough.

As construction activity becomes more active next month, this newsletter will be distributed on a weekly basis beginning April 14. It will provide information about what construction activities will be taking place in the week ahead. Additional road closures and detours will be listed in the newsletter, sent to the local media for publication and posted on the project website.

The PA Turnpike Commission and its contractors appreciate the support

the community has offered, and look forward to working with everyone as the project moves forward.

MFE is a regional transportation improvement project that will transform the areas it touches by supporting regional economic development and improving quality of life while implementing innovative and sustainable best practices.

# **Project History**



In 1985 the Pennsylvania Legislature assigned responsibility for development of the MFE and Southern Beltway projects to the PA Turnpike Commission (PTC) to boost economic development in the Mon Valley.

The MFE system consists of a regional transportation improvement project that provides better highway access and mobility to help spur redevelopment efforts in the area.

The MFE system will not only provide much needed access to the Mon Valley area, it will provide a faster and safer travel option for traffic; particularly commercial vehicles using existing arteries such as PA Route 51, 88 and 837 as well as U.S. Routes 119 and I-70.

The final MFE project from PA Route 51 to I-376 will complete the 68-mile MFE and further improve the local transportation network by providing safe, efficient transportation improvements from Jefferson Hills to Monroeville.

The PA Route 51 to I-376 Project is the final and the largest of the four MFE projects. Due to funding availability, this project has been divided into two sections: north of the Monongahela River and south of the Monongahela River.

The PA Route 51 to I-376 Project will also encourage redevelopment of abandoned industrial sites, encourage revitalization of neighborhoods and relieve local traffic congestion on roadways in the southern and eastern portions of Allegheny County. The completion of the project will also complement the regional transportation network.

This project will connect the Mon Valley with Pittsburgh's eastern suburbs, and Washington and Westmoreland Counties and expects to:



Enable redevelopment of industrial sites.



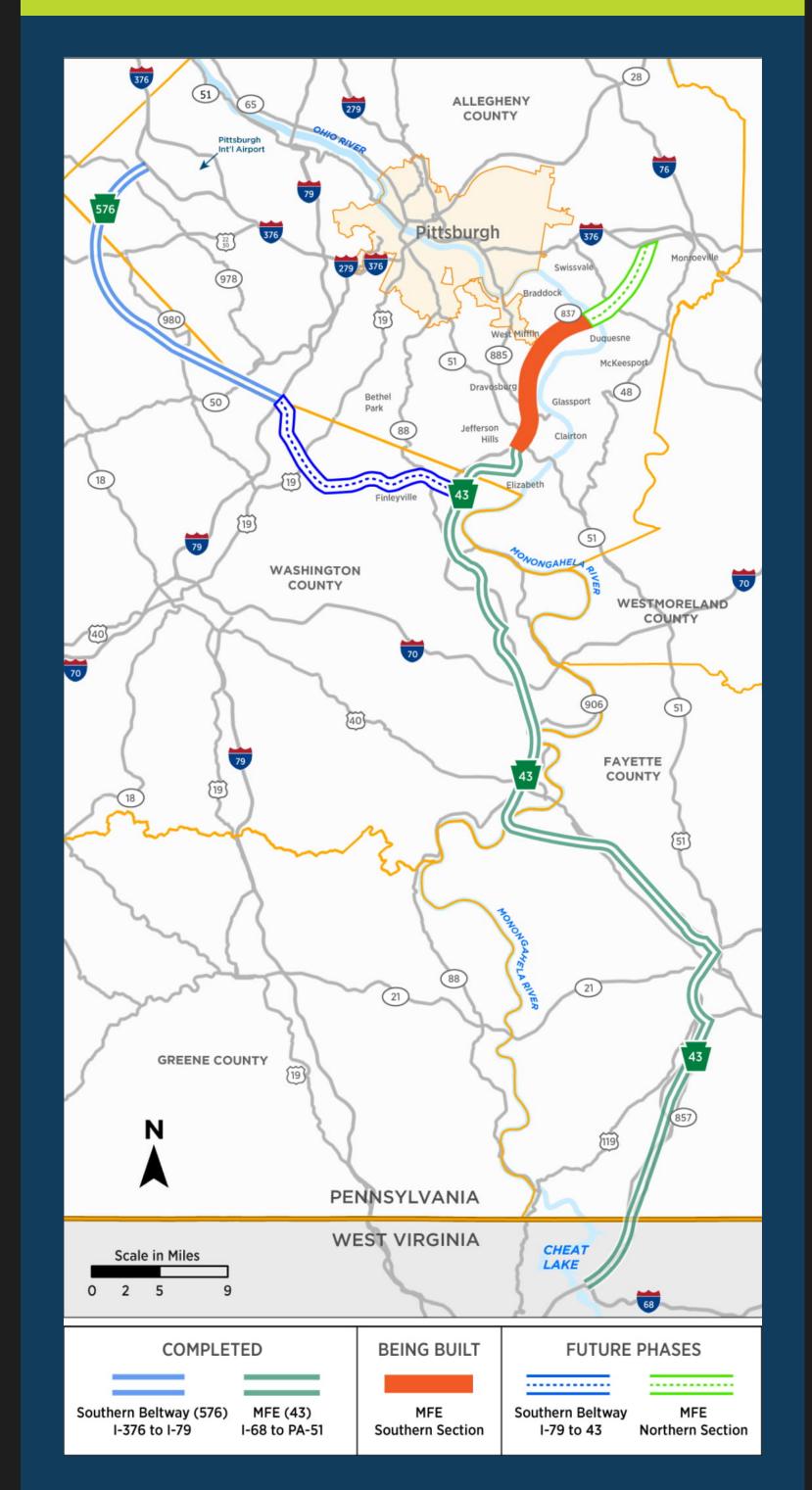
Encourage revitalization of neighborhoods.



Relieve traffic congestion on local roadways.



Improve the regional transportation network.



## Where We Are Now

The southern section of the MFE PA Route 51 to I-376 project is divided into seven construction sections. Construction is estimated to begin in February or March, starting with Section 53A1 beginning at the existing PA Route 43 and PA Route 51 interchange and continuing north of Coal Valley Road in West Mifflin Borough.

Construction on the remaining sections will progress and sections of the roadway will open as interchanges are completed and toll points are put in place.

Check the project website for schedule updates: <u>PA Route 51 to I-376 of</u> <u>the Mon/Fayette Expressway (paturnpike.com).</u>



#### Visit the MFE website for more information

Have questions? Please contact: Renee Vid Colborn Operations Communications Officer Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission 2200 North Center Avenue, New Stanton, PA 15672 Email: rcolborn@paturnpike.com

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