

Making Connections - May 2023

MON/FAYETTE EXPRESSWAY PA Route 51 to I-376



This week Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) executives and elected officials marked the start of construction for the Mon/Fayette Expressway PA State Route 51 to I-376 Project's southern section with a groundbreaking ceremony. The ceremony was held near the Mon/Fayette Expressway bridges that span PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills Borough, Allegheny County.

PA Lt. Governor Austin Davis, PA State Senator James R. Brewster, PA Secretary of Transportation and PA Turnpike Commission Chair Mike Carroll, PA State Senator Jay Costa, PA Turnpike Commission Secretary-Treasurer Sean Logan and PA Turnpike Commission CEO Mark Compton all took part in the ceremony with an official tossing of the dirt to get the project underway.

The entire southern section of the project spans eight miles from PA Route 51 in Jefferson Hills Borough to PA Route 837 in Duquesne, Allegheny County and is broken down into seven construction sections. Trumbull Corporation was awarded the first construction section and has already started working in Jefferson Hills Borough by clearing trees, excavating the area and doing bridge work. The next construction section is expected to go out to bid in September.

"This long-awaited project represents a significant investment in the Mon Valley that will not only enhance mobility and improve regional transportation in the area but is expected to bring economic opportunities to the region," said PA Senator James R. Brewster.

Once the Mon/Fayette Expressway is finished, it is expected to bring redevelopment of industrial sites and revitalization of neighborhoods in the Mon Valley similar to what is happening on the Southern Beltway right now. Click on the links below to read the articles about how the Southern Beltway is boosting development in the area and helping the economy.

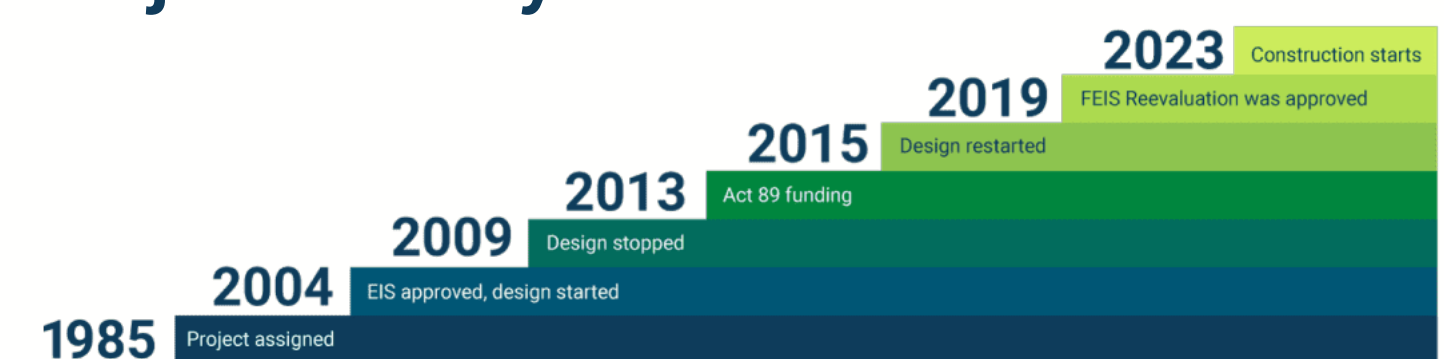
[Sale of \\$2M tract a boost to new industrial park off Southern Beltway | observer-reporter.com](#)

[Pittsburgh Post-Gazette - First fruits: Developer lands anchor tenant for new industrial building near the Southern Beltway - NewsSlide](#)

Act 61 of 1985 called upon the PTC to develop several significant transportation projects including the Mon/Fayette Expressway and the Southern Beltway, which are the largest. "Though construction was partially funded with the help of state tax dollars, the resulting miles of new highway are being operated and maintained by the PTC today without taxes," says PA Turnpike Commission Secretary-Treasurer Sean Logan. The estimated cost to build the southern section of the Mon/Fayette Expressway PA Route 51 to I-376 is \$1.5 billion.

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.

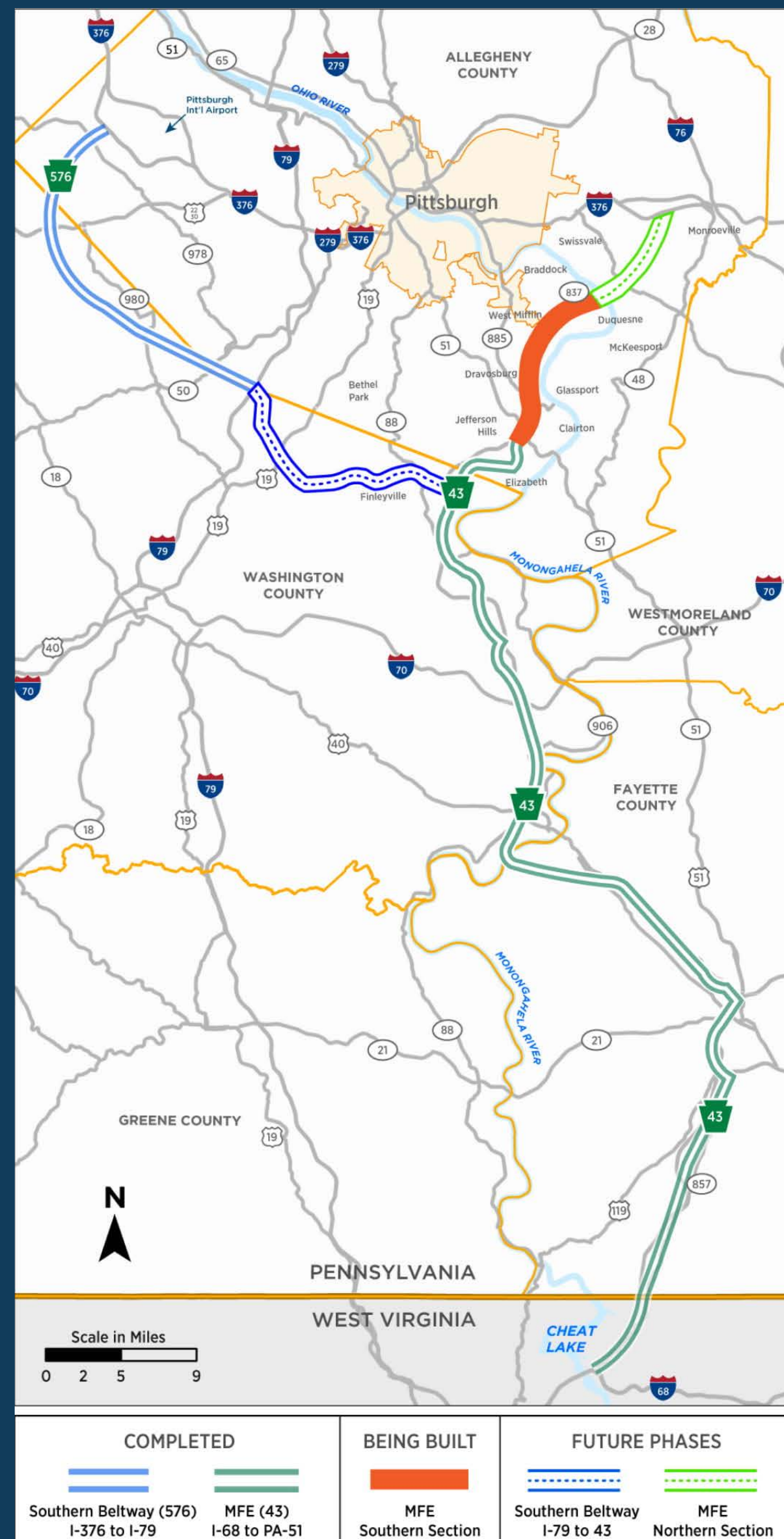
The final MFE project from PA Route 51 to I-376 will complete the 68-mile MFE and further improve the local transportation network by providing safe, efficient transportation improvements from Jefferson Hills to Monroeville.

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: [PA Route 51 to I-376 of the Mon/Fayette Expressway \(paturnpike.com\)](#).



Visit the [MFE website](#) for more information

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