



TUSCARORA TUNNEL PROJECT UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2022

Work in the eastbound tunnel is complete as of November 18th. Beginning on November 29th weekly closures of the westbound tunnel will start and continue through November 2023 depending on traffic conditions and holiday restrictions. Weekly closures begin each Sunday night at 9 p.m. and end each Friday by noon. During the westbound tunnel weekly closures, westbound traffic will be diverted into the eastbound tunnel and the eastbound tunnel operates with bi-directional traffic.

Over the past few months, the contractor has completed installing the new lighting system including conduits, wiring, and junction boxes that are the length of the eastbound tunnel. They have also installed life safety systems throughout the eastbound tunnel including CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television) cameras, fire alarms, dynamic message signs, lane control signs, and safety signs.

The SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system is operational for tunnel guards and can be controlled in the portal buildings. The new SCADA system is connected to the various life safety systems including new axial fans that have been installed in the tunnel.

Over the next few months, the contractor will complete the work at the east side of the tunnels of replacing the existing brick façade with a more maintenance free system. More axial fans will be activated in the portal buildings and brought online into the SCADA system, which in combination with the newly installed Saccardo nozzles will provide a more efficient ventilation system in the tunnels.

During the westbound tunnel closures there will be a new drainage system added to the walls and new inlets installed along each side of the roadway. There will also be repairs performed to the tile walls and to the surface of the roadway barriers. Although most of the westbound tunnel ceiling will remain, there will be sections of the ceiling at each end of the tunnel that will be reconstructed to allow installation of the Saccardo nozzles along with new ductwork and dampers for the axial ventilation fans. A completely new communications and life safety system will also be installed throughout the westbound tunnel similar to what was recently installed in the eastbound tunnel with the exception of interior dynamic message signs, which cannot be placed due to the ceiling remaining in place.