

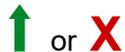


TUSCARORA TUNNEL PROJECT UPDATE

MARCH 2020

Over the past several months, the contractor was working at night in the westbound tunnel preparing for weeklong, bidirectional traffic shifts that started in late February when the eastbound tunnel closed intermittently. The contractor installed multiple traffic enhancements to aid motorist visibility and directional assistance, including:

- Additional lighting at the west end of the tunnel to provide improved brightness and visibility for eastbound travelers. The light level will adjust automatically based on conditions outside the tunnel.
- LED lane arrow in-pavement lights (also known as runway lights) to provide drivers a road-level guide for lane use.
- Overhead lane-control signs that denote live lanes available for use (green arrow) or unavailable (red).



The contractor has identified upgrades that require lead time for material manufacturing, such as the new tunnel ventilation fans, emergency generators and tunnel control system (TCS) including CCTVs. The contractor is preparing detailed construction method plans for the waterproofing system installation required in the tunnel. When the TCS is installed, it will provide a state-of-the-art upgrade of the communications and life safety systems within the Tuscarora tunnels.

At the end of February, the contractor implemented weekly eastbound tunnel closings. These closings begin each Sunday at 9 p.m., and the eastbound tunnel reopens at the end of each week by noon on Friday. During the eastbound tunnel closing, a single lane of eastbound traffic is diverted into the westbound tunnel. The westbound tunnel will operate with bidirectional traffic during the weekly closures.

During the next several months, the contractor will perform ceiling demolition through the length of the closed eastbound tunnel, with the exception of the tunnel ends. Nozzles will be installed at each entrance to concentrate the airflow into the tunnels from new fans. The remainder of the ceiling will not be replaced and will allow for a more open effect when driving through the eastbound tunnel. The contractor will then remove the concrete barrier/walkway along the left side of the eastbound tunnel. Temporary concrete barrier will be installed to protect the work area when the tunnel reopens on weekends.



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After the existing concrete barrier is removed, a new roadway drainage system will be constructed, along with new drainage pipe ties into the main drainage pipe. After completion of the roadway drainage, additional tunnel drains will be installed as part of the new tunnel waterproofing system.

New electrical wiring, conduits and temporary lighting will be installed in the westbound tunnel plenum area as work progresses in the eastbound tunnel. The existing water line system will also be modified in both tunnels. Upgrades to the portal buildings, including the electrical and mechanical systems, will begin.

At the start of the Independence Day holiday in July, the weekly closures will cease temporarily. They will resume at the end of the Labor Day holiday period.