

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE May 14, 2019

PennDOT Announces Interstate 80 Safety Enhancement Project

Bellefonte, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) today announced the start of a safety enhancement project involving Route 26 and Interstate 80 westbound at the 161/Bellefonte exit in Centre County.

Starting Thursday, May 16, the left (passing) lane of I-80 westbound will be closed at the exit as crews begin milling and paving the shoulder. This is a one-day operation with a short-term lane closure that will only be in place while crews are working.

Upon completion, crews will begin extending and paving the westbound off-ramp. PennDOT will issue an update prior to the start of that phase.

The overall project involves extending and paving the off-ramp, installation of a traffic signal with queue detection at the intersection with Route 26, improving sight distances by excavating the embankment south of the intersection, installation of signage and guiderail, and pavement marking.

HRI, Inc. of State College is the contractor for this \$929,000 project, which is expected to be complete by mid-August. All work is weather and schedule dependent.

PennDOT reminds drivers to use caution in all work zones, obey posted speed limits, and always buckle up.

PennDOT encourages drivers to "Know before they go" and to check conditions on more than 40,000 roadway miles by visiting <u>www.511PA.com</u>. 511PA is free, available 24 hours a day, and provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information, and access to more than 860 traffic cameras.

511PA is also available through a smartphone application for iPhone and Android devices, by calling 5-1-1, or by following regional Twitter alerts accessible on the 511PA website.

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