



Curt Werner/Dillsburg Banner

The bridge and culvert on Williams Grove Road, near the Creek Road intersection in Carroll and Monroe townships, is under construction to make way for a new bridge that is twice as wide and 47 feet longer.

Bridge work underway

Alex Eckman

Staff Reporter/Dillsburg Banner

Construction is underway to replace two 67-year-old bridges on Williams Grove Road at the Creek Road intersection in Carroll and Monroe townships.

"The existing bridge is structurally deficient and the culvert is functionally obsolete," said Greg Penny, PennDOT district spokesman. "The bridges

are showing signs of deterioration." A new bridge and culvert will be built parallel to the old ones at a slightly different angle in order to allow travel to continue across the waterways.

The project is expected to cost \$3.1 million and be completed in early May, 2010.

The new bridge will be 200 feet long with 12 foot wide travel lanes and ten foot wide shoulders, making it 47 feet longer than and twice as wide as the existing

bridge which is only 153 feet long with 11 foot travel lanes.

Penny said there will be minimal impact for drivers; an average of 5,787 vehicles cross the bridge daily.

The road will not be closed, it will remain in use as normal. "There is a possibility that a signal will be installed on one lane of the existing bridge," Penny said, to allow space to build the new structure. "I don't have a final decision on that."

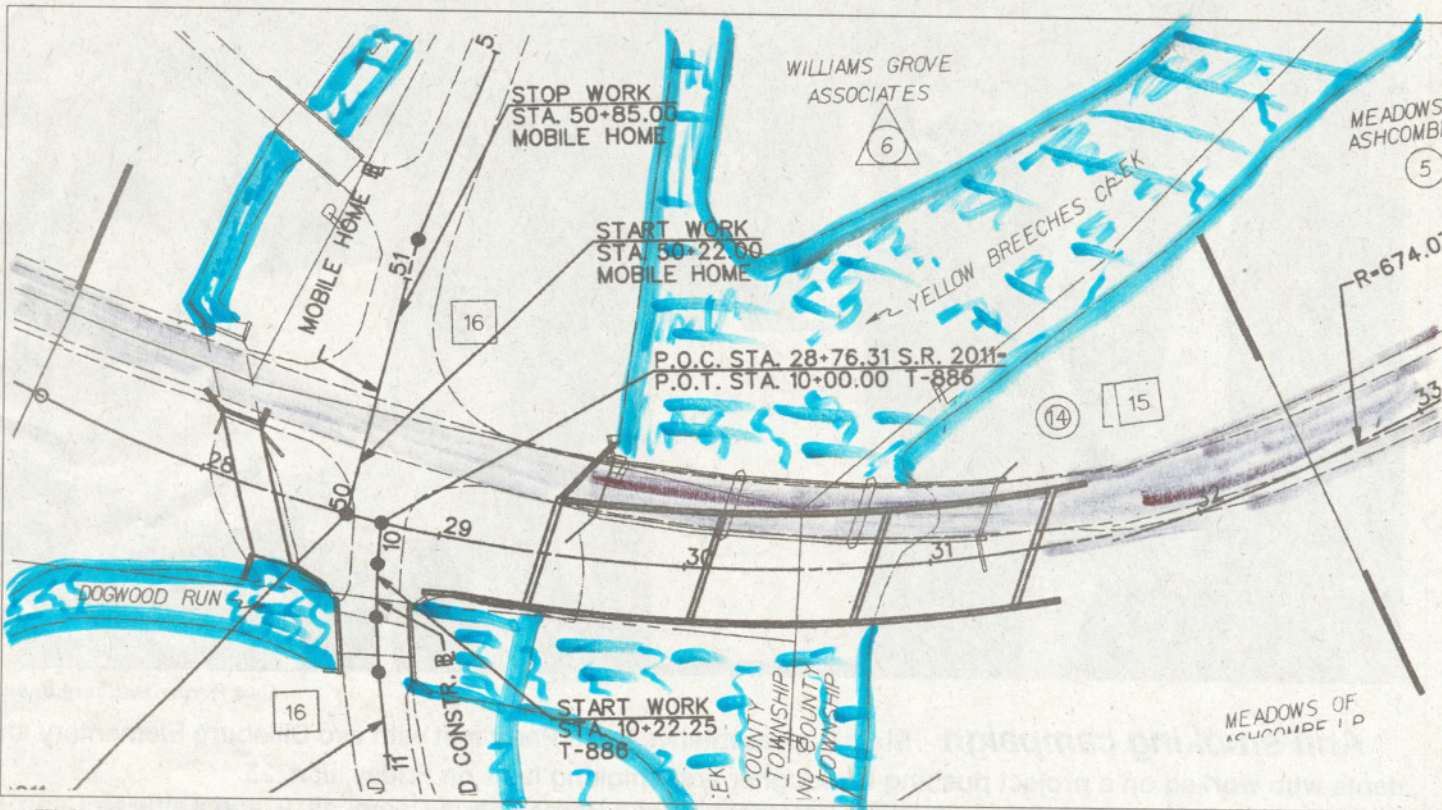
Other delays may occur

when equipment is moved to the site for the placement of temporary coffer dams, structures that will allow workers to build piers on a dry stream bed.

With orange cones set up to warn motorists, flag men are now diverting drivers into a single lane as construction workers clear the nearby woods with bulldozers to make way for the new road.

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See Bridge work



This map of PennDOT's construction plans show the alignment of the new culvert and bridge.

ers to make way for the new road. The operation will be suspended each year for trout season, from March 1 until June 15. Penny said, "The Yellow Breeches Creek is considered a high-quality

trout stream," so not even the Department of Transportation can disturb its waters between these dates. Since the Minneapolis bridge disaster in 2007, PennDOT has been assess-

ing and repairing bridges across the state. "Pennsylvania has close to 6,000 structurally deficient bridges." Governor Rendell said Tuesday. "We can and must repair 1,000 of those in the next three

years." The work on Williams Grove Road will be performed by the Susquehanna Valley Construction Company of New Cumberland.