

# Construction Update

## SR 981, SECTION Q20



### 2023 Construction Activity

Route 981, Section Q20 is the first of three Laurel Valley Transportation Improvement Projects (LVTIP) to advance to construction. The project will improve 4.5 miles from the Route 981/Route 819 intersection north to Norvelt near Windy Hill Drive.

Work on Section Q20 will continue north on Route 981, from Route 819 towards the S-curve south of Cherry Blossom Drive and Shannon Drive. Work will start this spring to realign Hecla Road and Route 981, replace the Hurst Run culvert, final pavement will be placed throughout the new alignment, and the Route 981/Route 819 roundabout will be opened to traffic.

### Construction will include:

- ✓ Route 981/819 roundabout completion and traffic restoration
- ✓ Route 981 reconstruction and widening from the new roundabout through the existing S-curve south of Cherry Blossom Lane
- ✓ Final paving and opening of new alignment section
- ✓ Route 981 widening and reconstruction, from realigned Route 981 to intersection of Mount Pleasant, Hecla, and Kecksburg Roads including replacement of Hurst Run Culvert
- ✓ Drainage improvements and off-alignment work near Windy Hill Road



### ANTICIPATED DETOURS & TRAFFIC PATTERNS

- Three detours at the State Street-Hecla Road roundabout
- Three-day detour for final tie-ins at the Route 819 roundabout
- Temporary signals and traffic shifts will be in place for work near Cherry Blossom Drive, State Street/Hecla Road roundabout, and at the Hurst Run culvert.

*Check the web page for more information as detours and traffic restrictions are scheduled.*

### 2022 CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS



During 2022, construction of the Route 981/819 Shupe Run culvert was completed. The new roundabout will open Summer 2023. The new 1.5-mile Route 981 alignment was constructed south of Carpentertown Road to near Walton's Lane, including realignment, drainage upgrades, and stream relocations along Carpentertown Road. The new Route 981 alignment was completed from State Street/Hecla Road to north of the PA Turnpike Bridge. Fiedors Grove Road was relocated and upgrades were made to the drainage system near the Turnpike along Route 981. The new Route 981 bridge (98-foot span) was constructed over Boyer Run (pictured left), and the inactive railroad trestle over Route 981 was removed and transported to its new home at the West Overton Museum.





## 2023 CONSTRUCTION & DETOURS

Four detours are anticipated during the 2023 construction season. Additional short-term, periodic detours and traffic restrictions may occur as needed. Check the project website and sign up for email updates.

## Route 981, Section Q20 Improvements

Additional work, highlighted in orange in the map above, will be underway throughout the year. Final pavement and tie-ins will be completed at the Route 981/Route 819 roundabout. Work will begin on the construction of the Route 981/State Street/Hecla Road roundabout. Carpentertown Road will be realigned and paved. The Route 981 culvert carrying Hurst Run will be replaced, Route 981 will be widened to the Norvelt intersection. Realignment of Route 981 and drainage improvements near the northern project limits at Windy Hill Road will begin.

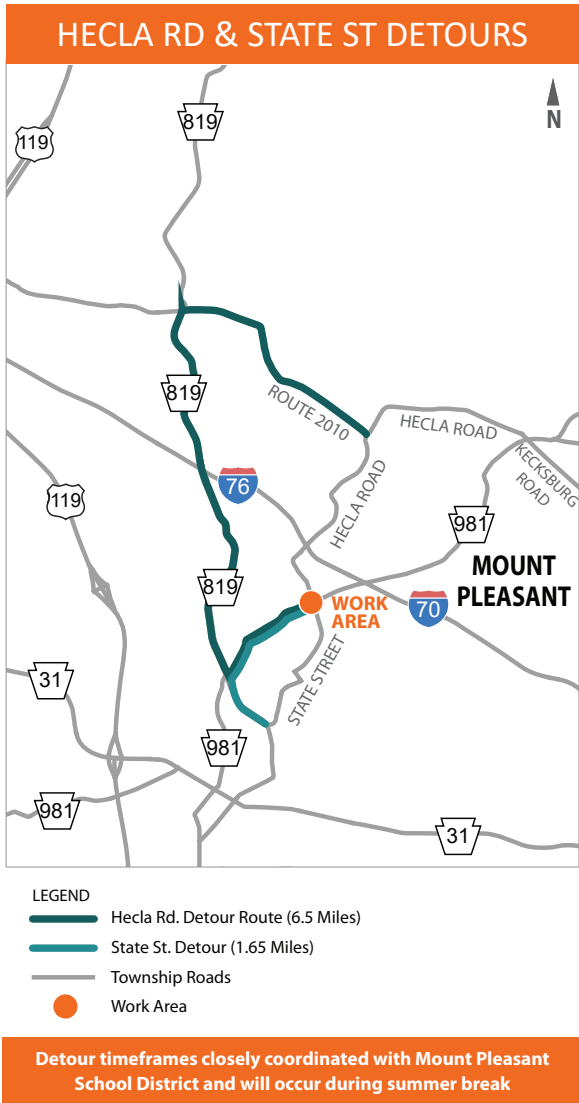
### DETOUR

#### Hecla Road/State Street Roundabout

Three detours are anticipated during the 2023 construction season associated with the construction of the Hecla Road/State Street roundabout.

Those detours will be encountered in the following order:

- 1. Hecla Road Detour**  
**Anticipated Timing:** Spring 2023, two-month duration
- 2. State Street Detour**  
**Anticipated Timing:** Summer 2023, seven continuous days, during school summer break
- 3. Combined Hecla Road/State Street Detour**  
**Anticipated Timing:** Summer 2023, five continuous weekdays, during school summer break



## INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

The construction team is using portable traffic signal systems throughout the project area. The smaller software-based system is ideal for short-term traffic control providing increased work-zone safety while maximizing traffic flow. Crews can focus on the task at hand instead of manually flagging traffic.

### DETOUR

#### Full Detour - Route 819 at Route 981 Intersection

One short-term detour (shown to the right) is expected to connect the approach roadways to the newly constructed roundabout.

**Anticipated Timing:**  
Summer 2023, three-day duration







## WORK ZONE SAFETY

Drive carefully for your safety and the safety of highway workers.

- Drive the work zone speed limit.
- Pay attention to signs and flaggers.
- Turn on your headlights in posted work zones.
- Don't tailgate.
- Use four-way flashers when stopped or traveling slowly.
- Always buckle up.
- Avoid distractions, and expect the unexpected.
- Be patient.

## Stay in Touch with the Project Team

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Follow PennDOT and 511PA for the most updated information as traffic conditions and patterns change.



511PA.com



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