

PROYECTO DE RECONSTRUCCIÓN DE LOS PUENTES SOBRE EL RÍO LEHIGH EN LA INTERESTATAL I-80, PENNSYLVANIA (EE. UU.)

El proyecto reemplazará los puentes envejecidos con estructuras más anchas; aumentando la longitud del carril auxiliar de la rampa de entrada en dirección este, la altura de las barreras de los puentes y el ancho de los arcones para cumplir con los estándares de diseño interestatales actuales; y mejorar la seguridad. El proyecto de la I-80 sobre el puente del río Lehigh es uno de proyectos que se están considerando como candidato a puente con peaje.

Project Information

County: Carbon and Luzerne

State Route: SR 0080-08B (Interstate 80)

Local Name: I-80 over Lehigh River Bridge Project

Project Type: Bridge Replacement

Proposed Construction Start: 2023-2025

Estimated Construction Duration: 2-3 years

Last Updated: February 2021

Bridge tolling can provide the funds to repair or replace these costly bridges without using PennDOT's current funding, which in turn allows those funds to be used for other roadway maintenance, operations, and improvements. Tolling would be all electronic and collected by using E-ZPass or license plate billing. The funds received from the toll would go back to the bridge where the toll is collected to pay for the construction, maintenance, and operation of that bridge.

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The I-80 bridges over the Lehigh River are eastbound/westbound structures built in 1965 and approaching the end of their serviceable lifespans. These bridges cross over the Lehigh River, Lehigh Gorge State Park, Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad and SR-1005 (River Road) in Carbon and Luzerne Counties. Combined, the bridges carry an average of 27,400 vehicles per day, about 44 percent of which is truck traffic.

The purpose of the I-80 over Lehigh River Bridge project is to address the deterioration of the aging bridge structures and thereby provide safe and structurally sufficient bridges that will provide connectivity for interstate travelers, commuters, commercial users, emergency services, tourists and local residents. The project will replace the aging bridges with wider structures; increase the length of the eastbound on-ramp auxiliary lane, the height of the bridges' barriers and the width of the shoulders to meet current interstate design standards; and improve safety in the corridor.

The I-80 over Lehigh River Bridge project is one of several projects being evaluated as a candidate for bridge tolling. A bridge toll is a fee that drivers pay when passing a specific location, often by using a service like E-ZPass. The funds received from the bridge toll will go back to the I-80 over Lehigh River Bridge project to pay for construction, maintenance and operation.

To comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the project is being advanced as Categorical Exclusion (CE) and impacts to natural, social, economic and cultural resources are being assessed.

As part of the environmental review process, PennDOT is analyzing how bridge tolling may impact local communities and how alternate routes to avoid the toll may impact local traffic and roadways. When environmental studies are completed in Spring 2021, PennDOT will present findings for public review and comment in a virtual meeting, or if safety precautions allow, an in-person public meeting. During the meeting, the Project Team will also share project details, such as engineering design, environmental impacts, construction schedule, maintenance and protection of traffic during construction and access to Lehigh Gorge State Park and boat launches in the park.

To stay informed or to be added to the project mailing list, please complete the form at the bottom of this page. You may also submit your comments and feedback by using this form: <https://www.penndot.gov/RegionalOffices/district-5/ConstructionsProjectsAndRoadwork/Pages/I-80-White-Haven.aspx>

Para más información, ver documento electrónico y enlace.