



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 15, 2017

PennDOT to Replace Rt. 743 Bridge over Spring Creek in Hershey

Park Avenue bridge between Hersheypark and Zoo America will close for up to 63 days

Harrisburg, PA – The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently set work zone signs announcing that at 6 PM on Sunday night, February 19, the bridge that carries Route 743 over Spring Creek between Hersheypark and ZooAmerica in Derry Township, Dauphin County, will be closed for reconstruction.

PennDOT advises travelers that the bridge will be closed for up to 63 days as its contractor demolishes the existing superstructure and sets pre-cast portions of the new bridge into place. Until then, motorists should allow for additional time in their plans and use U.S. 422, and Hersheypark Drive as alternate routes. This section of Route 743, known locally as Park Avenue, averages more than 11,500 vehicles traveled daily.

PennDOT awarded the \$2,995,254.20 bridge superstructure replacement contract to J.D. Eckman, Inc. of Atglen, Chester County. Work includes coordinated utility relocation, demolition and replacement of the existing two-span concrete T-beam superstructure over Spring Creek with a single-span steel plate girder bridge supported by integral abutments, and curb cut work that will be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The existing bridge was built in 1921, and once replaced will be removed from the list of structurally deficient bridges.

Later this spring, once the work is completed for the pre-cast and cast-in-place portions of the new bridge superstructure, approach slabs, sidewalks and ADA curb, the new bridge will be opened to traffic. Milling and paving work will be conducted after the bridge is opened to traffic under short-term single-lane alternating traffic patterns. The entire project is expected to be completed in early July.

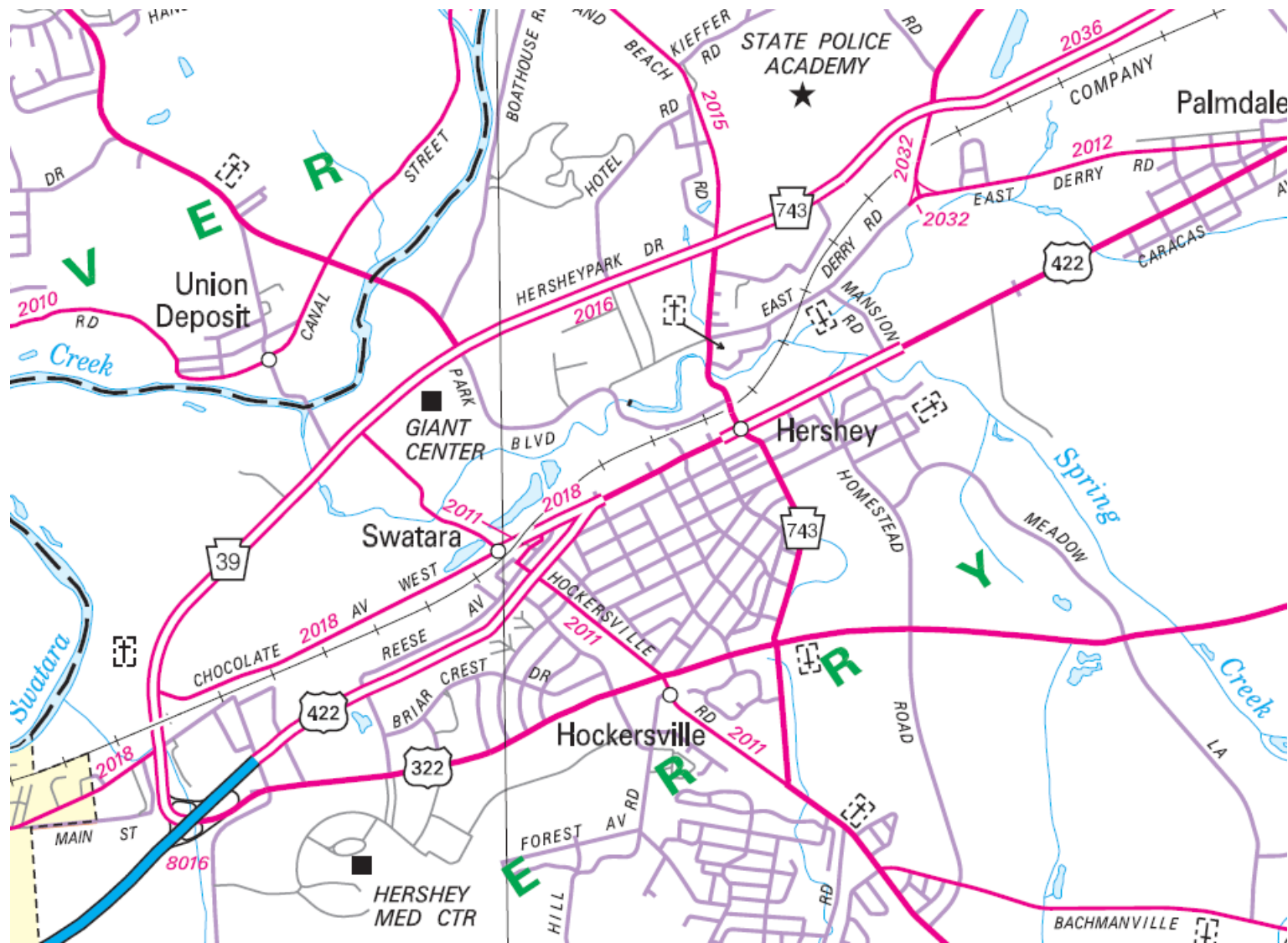
Motorists can check conditions on more than 40,000 roadway miles by visiting www.511PA.com. 511PA, which is free and available 24 hours a day, provides traffic delay warnings, weather forecasts, traffic speed information and access to more than 770 traffic cameras, 94 of which are in the Midstate.

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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Source: PennDOT Engineering District 8

Editor's Note: Please refer to the accompanying project location map.



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