



# PLANK ROAD INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

## NEWSLETTER

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### Visit our web site:

[www.plankroadinterchange.com](http://www.plankroadinterchange.com)

You will find up-to-date information about the project. You will also be able to add your name to our mailing list.

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## Project Introduction

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) has begun traffic and engineering studies for the Interstate 99 (I-99) interchange with Plank Road (Exit #31), as well as:

- Plank Road from the Sheraton Drive/ Parkview Drive intersection to the Toys R Us/K-mart intersection,
- Goods Lane between Plank Road and the Kaufmann's entrance to the Logan Valley Mall, and
- Orchard Avenue between Plank Road and the entrance to Park Hills Plaza/Orchard Plaza.

This project will evaluate the existing conditions and build upon the recommendation of an earlier feasibility study. That study identified potential improvements to accommodate the existing and projected traffic volumes in the corridor. The intent of this project will be to improve safety, traffic flow, and reduce congestion. To achieve this, enhancements may include updated signalization, additional lanes, and possibly a reconfigured interchange between I-99 and Plank Road.

The traffic demand throughout the project area will only increase with future commercial development. A number of shopping plazas, individual businesses, and residences in the project area may be affected. Allegheny and Logan Townships, the City of Altoona, and Blair County are also stakeholders in the project.

The limits of the project area looking at the map to the right are as follows:

**North** ñ Plank Road from the Toys R Us /K-Mart intersection

**South** ñ Plank Road and Sheraton Drive/Parkview Drive intersection

**East** ñ Interstate 99 where it crosses Route 36

**West** ñ Interstate 99 where it crosses from Logan Township to Allegheny Township

PENNDOT is working with Mackin Engineering Company of Pittsburgh to perform the engineering and design tasks for the project. The project team will be conducting a public meeting to introduce the project, review preliminary information, and gather feedback on safety and traffic concerns in the project area.

The project team will undertake three specific tasks during the preliminary engineering phase:

1. Measure and prioritize existing roadway deficiencies or problems.
2. Present a range of alternatives to improve safety and alleviate congestion based on data collected and public input.
3. Recommend a preferred alternative for the improvement of the I-99 interchange with Plank Road and surrounding roadways.

Public input will be sought during each of these tasks. **The first public meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 11, 2003.** See reverse for details.



# Project Schedule

Public Involvement	Activity	Timing
	Obtain background information Conduct traffic studies	Winter 2002 through Spring 2003
Meeting 1	Project future traffic demands	Spring 2003
Meeting 2	Develop alternatives	Summer through Winter 2003
Meeting 3	Prepare preliminary plans for submission to PENNDOT	Spring through Fall 2004

## Public Meeting Announcement

PENNDOT invites you to attend its first public meeting on the Plank Road Interchange Improvement project. The purpose of this meeting is to introduce the project, review preliminary information, and gather public feedback on safety and traffic concerns in the project area. Everyone interested in the project is invited to attend. The comments from all individuals, groups, and organizations are welcome. PENNDOT is particularly interested in the identification of historic resources and determining the impact that the project may have on such resources.

### Meeting Details

Wednesday, June 11, 2003

6:00 ñ 8:30 PM

St. John's Grade School  
311 Lotz Avenue, Lakemont  
Altoona, PA

The public meeting will be conducted in an open house format. The public is welcome to attend anytime during the meeting hours. The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. For further assistance, contact David S. Wolfhope, P.E., PENNDOT Project Manager, at (814) 696-7196 or via email at [dwolfhope@state.pa.us](mailto:dwolfhope@state.pa.us).



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