



# NEWS

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**RELEASE: June 15, 2016**

## **Public Invited to Open House on Crescent Avenue to Northwestern Avenue Segment of Ridge Pike Improvement Project**

**Norristown, PA (June 15, 2016)** – Montgomery County invites the public to attend an open house focusing on the Crescent Avenue to Northwestern Avenue segment of the Ridge Pike Improvement Project. This segment runs through Whitemarsh and Springfield Townships. The open house will take place on Monday, June 20, 2016 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at the Whitemarsh Township Building located at 616 Germantown Pike in Lafayette Hill.

“Many Whitemarsh and Springfield citizens have voiced their frustration over traffic congestion in this area. The Ridge Pike Improvement Project, a major investment by Montgomery County, will significantly alleviate traffic congestion, increase safety, and enhance the environment for those who use public transit, walk, or bike,” said Matthew Edmond, Montgomery County Planning Commission (MCPC) Transportation Section Chief.

Ridge Pike, which is owned by Montgomery County from Norristown to Philadelphia, provides access to I-476 (the Blue Route) as well as numerous commercial centers. The five miles between Norristown and Philadelphia carry between 20,000 and 30,000 cars daily. The original “turnpike” dates to colonial days when Ridge Pike connected Philadelphia to agricultural lands. Many of the structures remaining along Ridge Pike have been part of the landscape for a very long time. The modern roadway dates from the 1930s. Through the years, Ridge Pike has been widened, reconstructed in concrete around the 1970s, and repaved numerous times.

The Ridge Pike Improvement Project, which is divided into several manageable segments for engineering and construction, will help relieve traffic congestion and improve safety. The project includes adding new signals and turn lanes, as well as an additional eastbound through lane between Church Road and Manor Road, upgrading stormwater management facilities, and adding sidewalks

and bus shelters throughout the corridor. A major goal of the project is to retain the existing character of the area along the corridor while upgrading the roadway.

The June 20<sup>th</sup> open house offers an opportunity for the public to hear about the segment of the project running from Crescent Avenue to Northwestern Avenue in Philadelphia. From 5:00pm to 6:30pm, attendees can view conceptual plan displays and discuss the project with project team members. A presentation on the project will take place at 6:30pm followed by a question-and-answer period.

For more on the Ridge Pike Improvement Project, please visit [www.RidgePikeProject.com](http://www.RidgePikeProject.com) or contact MCPC Principal Transportation Planner, Crystal Gilchrist, at 610-278-3734 or via email at [cgilchri@montcopa.org](mailto:cgilchri@montcopa.org).