

# Guide to Commuter Options

U.S. 202—Great Valley Area



www.US202.com



## 202 Construction

Construction is advancing to expand U.S. 202 to six lanes between U.S. 30 (Exton Bypass) and North Valley Road in East Whiteland and Tredyffrin Townships, Chester County. Work began on the corridor in 2007 with the replacement six bridges over U.S. 202 and mainline widening operations started in April 2011.

PennDOT is expanding 6.3 miles of U.S. 202 by adding a third travel lane in each direction; rebuilding 12 bridges; improving two interchanges (PA Route 401 and PA Route 29); and widening along the northbound side of the highway to add a collector-distributor road at the PA Route 29 Interchange. The collector-distributor essentially is a separate road running parallel to U.S. 202 that will reduce conflicts for merging traffic at the busy interchange.



## Permit Parking at Rail Stations

Parking permits are sold on a monthly basis for \$20.00 at SEPTA stations where permit parking is available. Priority is given to commuters who purchase a parking permit in combination with a TrailPass.

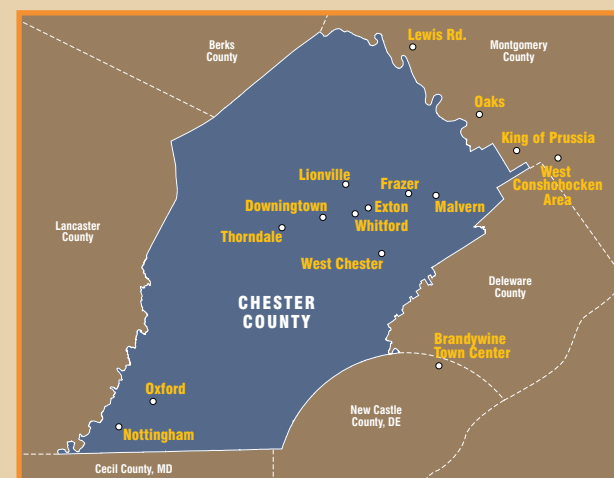
215-580-6576  
www.septa.org/parking

## Park & Ride

You can avoid traffic congestion and reduce commuting costs by leaving your car in one of the convenient lots listed below while you carpool, vanpool or take transit to work. Park & Ride lots are located throughout the region and the odds are there's one close to you!

Some Park & Ride locations with access to bus or regional rail lines charge a nominal fee to park, while others that are strictly for carpool and vanpool users are free.

www.dvrpc.org/mobilityalternatives/park-n-ride.htm  
www.phillytraffic.com/parkandride.html



## Park & Ride Lots

- Brandywine Town Center:** U.S. 202 south of PA state line—Free
- Downingtown:** SEPTA Regional Rail Station, Lancaster & Stuart Avenues—\$1.00
- Exton:** PA Route 100 at U.S. 30 (Exton Bypass) Interchange next to Exton SEPTA Regional Rail Station—\$1.00
- Frazer:** U.S. 30 (Lancaster Avenue) at U.S. 202 Interchange—Free
- King of Prussia:** South Gulph Road & Bill Smith Boulevard—Free
- Lionville:** PA Route 113 east of PA Route 100—Free
- Malvern:** Matthews Road at PA Route 29/U.S. 202 Interchange—Free
- Malvern:** SEPTA Regional Rail Station, King Street & Warren Avenue—\$1.00
- Nottingham:** U.S. 1 at PA Route 272 Interchange—Free
- Oaks:** New Mill Road at U.S. 422/Egypt Rd. Interchange—Free
- Oxford:** U.S. 1 at PA Route 472 Interchange—Free
- Thorndale:** SEPTA Regional Rail Station, South Bailey Road, south of U.S. 30—\$1.00
- West Chester:** Paoli Pike at U.S. 202 Interchange, adjacent to West Goshen Shopping Center—Free
- West Chester Transportation Center:** 200 block of West Market Street—Metered
- West Conshohocken area:** Matson Ford Road at I-76/I-476 Interchange—Free
- Whitford:** SEPTA Regional Rail Station, Whitford Road & Spackman Lane—\$1.00

This portion of the highway, also referred to as Section 300, is currently a four-lane, limited-access expressway.

Due to significant growth in the area over the past decade, U.S. 202 carries more traffic than it was originally designed to handle. Each day approximately 75,000 vehicles travel on this stretch of the highway. PennDOT completed work in 2010 to replace six bridges over U.S. 202 to provide the space necessary to add a third northbound and southbound travel lane.

For continued project updates, sign up for the U.S. 202, Section 300 e-mail list at [www.us202-300.com](http://www.us202-300.com).

## Cruise Line

The Cruise Line is a subscription shuttle service that companies are encouraged to co-sponsor during the U.S. 202, Section 300 improvement project. They provide direct access from key locations to the worksite. These shuttles are partially subsidized by PennDOT and are managed by GVF Transportation. Contact the transportation management association (TMA) in your area for more information about how the Cruise Line can be part of your commuting program.

## Share-a-Ride

Tired of fighting traffic only to arrive at work stressed and frustrated? Want to save money on gas and maintenance expenses?

Try sharing...a ride! The Share-a-Ride program is a free computerized service that can match you with convenient transit services, car pools, vanpool groups, even walking and bicycling opportunities if you work in the five-county southeastern Pennsylvania region. Employers are also urged to get on board by locating matches for their employees!

www.pacarpool.com

## Emergency Ride Home

Do you wonder about a "safety net" if you share a ride to work (carpool, vanpool or take transit) in the event of an unexpected emergency during work hours? Problem solved...Emergency Ride Home (ERH) is here!

Like the Share-a-Ride program, the Emergency Ride Home program is sponsored by the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC). This program is only available to commuters who are registered through their participating employer or apply individually to the Share-a-Ride (SAR) ride-match program directly at [www.share-a-ride.org](http://www.share-a-ride.org). Registered commuters will contact their local transportation management association (TMA). Enterprise Rent-a-Car will provide vehicles to take qualified commuters home, to the place of an emergency, or to their cars as needed.

The ERH program is only available from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Requests must be made by 5:00 p.m. to receive a car before 6:00 p.m. that day.

www.pacarpool.com

## Tax Breaks for Commuting

Tax savings are available for transit and vanpool users for fares purchased through your employer. Section 132(f) of the IRS Code allows a \$125 per month transit benefit. Employees also save on FICA taxes!

Two options to use along U.S. 202 are:

- TransitChek** vouchers are used to purchase transit passes or pay vanpool costs ([www.gettransitchek.org](http://www.gettransitchek.org)).
- ComPass** provides discounted passes good on SEPTA's rail and transit system ([www.thecommuterschoice.com](http://www.thecommuterschoice.com)).

You can also contact your local transportation management association (TMA) to get more information on these programs. These programs can be offered as a fully paid company benefit, payable by pre-tax dollars by the employer, or as a shared cost between employer and employee.

## Bus & Rail Routes

Several existing and new public transportation services will be available during road reconstruction. These and other routes are illustrated on the reverse side of this brochure. The following services relate directly or indirectly to the U.S. 202, Section 300 corridor:

### NEW public transportation services:

**SEPTA 205:** Paoli Station to Great Valley and Phoenixville via Paoli-Thorndale Line \$

**Beeline (TMACC/Krapf):** Coatesville to Great Valley via Exton \$

**SEPTA 92:** Exton to King of Prussia via West Chester and Paoli

**SEPTA 93:** Norristown Transportation Center to Pottstown via Collegeville

**SEPTA 99:** Norristown Transportation Center to Phoenixville via King of Prussia

**SEPTA 104:** 69th Street Transportation Center to West Chester University via Newtown Square

**SEPTA 105:** 69th Street Transportation Center to Paoli via Lankenau Hospital

**SEPTA 106:** 69th Street Transportation Center to Paoli

**SEPTA 124:** Philadelphia to King of Prussia and Chesterbrook via Schuylkill Expressway

## Train Station Parking Expansion

SEPTA expanded parking at the Exton and Malvern Train Stations to improve access for regional rail services. Approximately 180 additional parking spaces have been added at the Exton Train Station, located at the crossroads of Chester County at U.S. Route 30 and PA 100. These provide additional options for SEPTA Paoli/Thorndale Line and Amtrak passengers traveling to Philadelphia and the Main Line. Thirty-nine additional spaces are also available for passengers using the reconstructed Malvern Train Station, located at King Street and Warren Avenue. Both of these locations now have additional capacity to handle more train passengers that might otherwise drive to their destination.

## Biking the Chester Valley Trail

Completion of the Chester Valley Trail—Phase 1 makes it safe and convenient for you to bike or walk to work. The four-mile trail segment between Valley Creek Blvd in Exton and PA 29 in Great Valley connects many residential communities with employment and shopping centers. The 12-foot wide paved multi-use trail provides a great alternative for commuters to avoid driving on U.S. 202. There is a trail head at the East Whiteland Township Building and a future trail head planned for the Exton Park Site.

**SEPTA 139:** King of Prussia to Philadelphia Premium Outlets via Phoenixville and Royersford

**SEPTA 204:** Paoli Station to Exton, Lionville, and Eagleview via Paoli-Thorndale Line \$

**SEPTA 206:** Paoli Station to Great Valley Corporate Center via Paoli-Thorndale Line

**SEPTA Paoli/Thorndale Regional Rail Line:** Philadelphia to Thorndale with connection to regional rail system (see adjacent map) \$

**AMTRAK Regional Rail:** Philadelphia to Harrisburg with connections to the interstate rail system

**Route A Bus (Krapf):** Coatesville to West Chester via Exton

**Coatesville Link (TMACC/Krapf):** Serving the Coatesville area, Parkersburg, and West Sadsbury Commons

**SCCOOT (TMACC):** Oxford to West Chester via Longwood

Funding for SEPTA routes 204, 205, and the TMACC's Beeline service is provided by PennDOT. PennDOT also funds supplemental Paoli/Thorndale rail service.

For SEPTA route, schedule, and fare information, contact the customer service center at 215-580-7800 or visit [www.septa.org](http://www.septa.org).

## ComPass Commuter Pass Program

ComPass is an incentive program offered by SEPTA as an employer-employee benefit to offer prepaid fares within the workplace. ComPass offers a 10% discount to employees—5% from SEPTA, 5% from the employer. The benefit is tax-free for employees and may be tax deductible for employers who participate.

215-580-3566  
[www.thecommuterschoice.com](http://www.thecommuterschoice.com)

## Need Relief From Congestion?

On a good day, U.S. 202 can agitate the most patient motorist. During the morning and evening rush-hour commutes, rows of brake lights line the road as far as the eye can see. Motorists familiar with the road believe it can't get any worse.

It will.

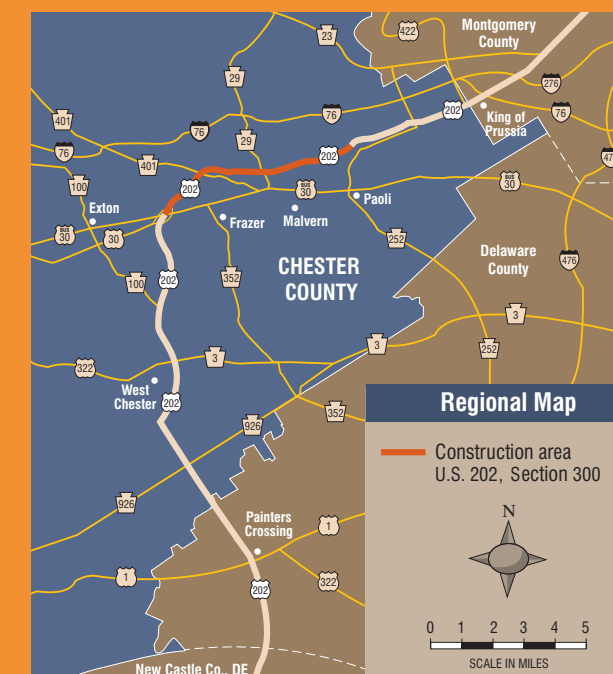
PennDOT began construction in spring 2007 on a project to improve travel on U.S. 202 between U.S. 30 (Exton Bypass) and North Valley Road in East Whiteland and Tredyffrin townships. During construction, motorists will face changing traffic patterns and possible delays.

Most motorists will experience their daily dose of stress before they get to work. Commuter stress has been known to affect an employee's job satisfaction. To avoid an unhealthy combination of commuter stress and work-related stress, it behooves **you** and **your employer** to seek alternative modes of transit.

This brochure outlines several transportation alternatives to help avoid congestion along U.S. 202. Your commute to work could be more pleasant and efficient if you bike, carpool, vanpool or use public transit.

Please enlist the help of your employer when exploring the transportation alternatives outlined in this brochure. Your employer knows that a happy employee is a more productive employee.

Or you could decide to spend more time in traffic? The choice is yours.



## Transportation Alternatives



**Rail**  
Connect smoothly from SEPTA's Paoli/Thorndale Line or AMTRAK to bus and shuttle services at Paoli Station.



**Bus & Shuttle**  
Use one of the new bus routes or employer supported shuttle services for a pleasant trip without driving.



**Park & Ride**  
Meet at convenient lots to share the costs of commuting (locations inside).



**Share-a-Ride**  
Sign up to match with other commuters in your area to share the driving.



**Emergency Ride Home**  
Get a vehicle quickly if you need to leave for a daytime emergency (details inside).



**Bike**  
For a safe and convenient commute, bike to work on the Chester Valley Trail.



## For More Information

**Chester County Planning Commission**  
610-344-6285  
[www.chesco.org/planning](http://www.chesco.org/planning)

**Compass Commuter Pass Program**  
[www.thecommuterschoice.com](http://www.thecommuterschoice.com)

**Delaware County TMA (DCTMA)**  
610-892-9440  
[www.dctma.org](http://www.dctma.org)

**Emergency Ride Home**  
[www.pacarpool.com](http://www.pacarpool.com)

**Federal Highway Administration**  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov)

**GVF Transportation (Greater Valley Forge TMA)**  
610-354-8899  
[www.gvftma.com](http://www.gvftma.com)

**Krapf**  
Public transit: 610-431-6015  
Rover (paratransit): 610-594-3911  
877-873-8415 (toll free)  
[www.krapfbus.com](http://www.krapfbus.com)  
[www.riderover.com](http://www.riderover.com)

**PennDOT**  
610-205-6700  
[www.dot.state.pa.us](http://www.dot.state.pa.us)  
[www.us202-300.com](http://www.us202-300.com)

**Pottstown Area Rapid Transit (PART)**  
610-326-5413  
[www.pottstownarearapidtransit.com](http://www.pottstownarearapidtransit.com)

**SEPTA**  
215-580-7800  
TDD/TTY: 215-580-7853  
[www.septa.org](http://www.septa.org)

**Share-a-Ride**  
[www.share-a-ride.org](http://www.share-a-ride.org)

**TMA of Chester County (TMACC)**  
610-993-0911  
SCCOOT: 877-612-1359 (toll free)  
[www.tmacc.org](http://www.tmacc.org)

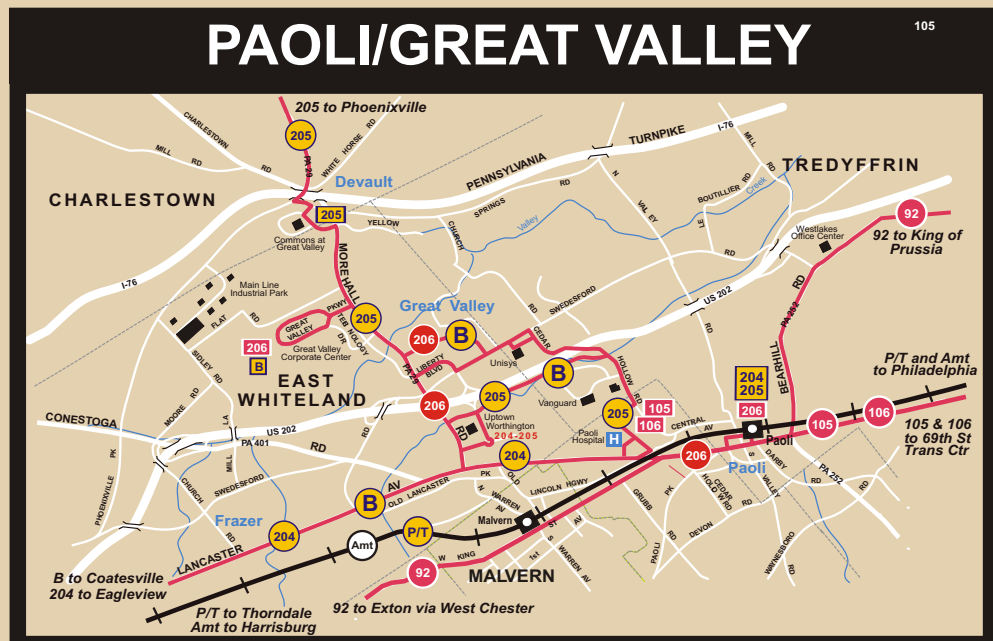
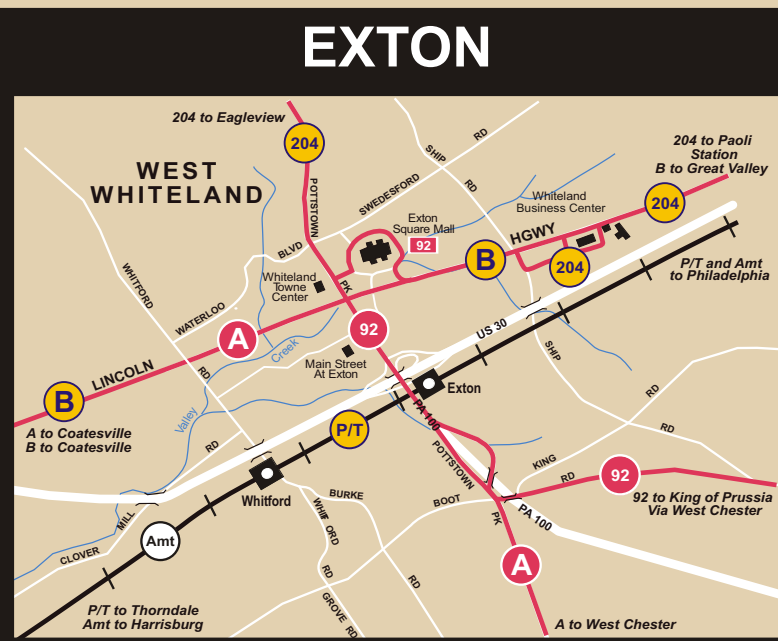
**TransitChek**  
[www.gettransitchek.org](http://www.gettransitchek.org)

**U.S. 202**  
[www.us202.com](http://www.us202.com)

Commuter options for U.S. 202—Great Valley Area Committee Members



www.US202.com



- ### LEGEND
- 204 Paoli Station to Eagleview
  - 205 Paoli Station to Phoenixville
  - B Coatesville to Great Valley (BeeLine -- TMACC)
  - P/T Philadelphia to Paoli/Thorndale
  - 92 Other SEPTA Bus Routes
  - A Krapf Route A (West Chester-Coatesville)
  - CL Coatesville Link (Coatesville to Parkersburg)
  - SC SCCOOT (West Chester to Oxford)
  - 104 Route 101 Trolley
  - N/S Norristown High Speed Line
  - M/N Manayunk/Norristown Line
  - M/E Media/Elwyn Line
  - Amt Amtrak Rail Service
  - P Park and Ride Locations

