



Options
Guide to
Commuter

U.S. 202—Great Valley Area



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

Federal Highway Administration | SEPTA | TMACC | Pennsylvania Department of Transportation | GVF Transportation | Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission | EPC

202 Construction

Construction on U.S. 202 between U.S. 30 (Exton Bypass) and North Valley Road in East Whiteland and Tredyffrin townships, Chester County, began in 2007.

PennDOT plans to improve 6.3 miles of U.S. 202 by adding a third travel lane in each direction; rebuilding 12 bridges; improving two interchanges (Route 401 and Route 29); and widening along the northbound side of the highway to add a collector-distributor road at the 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.

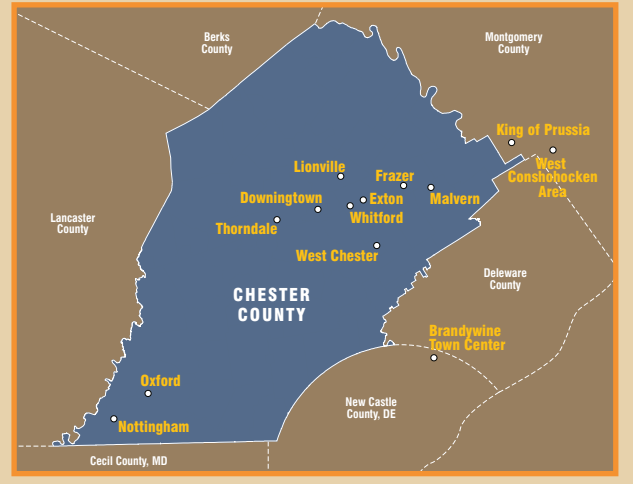
215-580-3400
www.septa.org/service/parking.html

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/transportation/commuter/map/parkandride.htm
www.phillytraffic.com/parkandride.htm



Park & Ride Lots

- Brandywine Town Center:** U.S. 202 south of PA state line—Free
- Downingtown:** R5 SEPTA Station, Stuart Avenue & Route 30—\$1.00
- Exton:** Route 100 at U.S. 30 (Exton Bypass) Interchange next to Exton R5 SEPTA Station—Free
- Frazer:** U.S. 30 (Lancaster Avenue) at U.S. 202 Interchange—Free
- King of Prussia:** South Gulph Road & Bill Smith Boulevard—Free
- Lionville:** Route 113 east of Route 100—Free
- Malvern:** Matthews Road at Route 29/U.S. 202 Interchange—Free
- Nottingham:** U.S. 1 at Route 272 Interchange—Free
- Oxford:** U.S. 1 at Route 472 Interchange—Free
- Thorndale:** R5 SEPTA 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:** R5 SEPTA 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. In 2007, PennDOT began work 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.

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 by key locations to the worksite. These shuttles are partially subsidized by PennDOT and are managed by GVF Transportation and TMACC. 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) ridematch program directly at 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 \$110 per month transit benefit, saving up to \$400 in income taxes per employee. 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).
- Compass** provides discounted passes good on SEPTA's rail and transit system (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 employee, 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 Main Line Industrial Park via R5 Paoli-Thorndale Line
 - SEPTA 306:** Brandywine Town Center to Great Valley via U.S. 202 and West Chester
 - Beeline (TMACC/Krapf):** Coatesville to Great Valley via Exton

- SEPTA 92:** West Chester to King of Prussia
- SEPTA 93:** Norristown to Pottstown
- SEPTA 99:** Norristown to Phoenixville
- SEPTA 104:** 69th Street Terminal to West Chester
- SEPTA 105:** 69th Street Terminal to Ardmore/Paoli
- SEPTA 111:** 69th Street Terminal to Penn State/Chadds Ford
- SEPTA 124:** Philadelphia to King of Prussia/Chesterbrook
- SEPTA 139:** King of Prussia to Limerick

SEPTA rail service for Philadelphia area



- SEPTA 204:** Paoli Station to Exton and Lionville via R5 Paoli-Thorndale Line
 - SEPTA 206:** Paoli Station to Great Valley Corporate Center via R5 Paoli-Thorndale Line
 - SEPTA 314:** West Chester to Goshen Corporate Park
 - SEPTA R5 Regional Rail:** 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, Parkesburg, and West Sadsbury Commons
 - SCCOOT (TMACC):** Oxford to West Chester via Longwood
- Funding for SEPTA routes 204, 205, 306, and the TMACC's Beeline service is provided by PennDOT. PennDOT also funds supplemental R5 rail service.
- For SEPTA route, schedule, and fare information, contact the customer service center at 215-580-7800 or visit www.septa.org.

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 use other options such as public transit, carpooling or vanpooling.

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

Bus

Use one of three new bus routes for a pleasant trip to work without driving.

Rail

Connect smoothly from SEPTA's R5 or AMTRAK to bus and shuttle services.

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).

Cruise Line

Encourage your company to subscribe to a shuttle that goes to the office door.

Exton Station Parking Expansion

Exton Station sits at the crossroads of Chester County—U.S. 30 and Route 100—and is easily accessible by R5 Paoli/Thorndale and AMTRAK passengers from a large area. Approximately 180 additional parking spaces will be constructed to help meet the demand for parking at this popular rail station. The expansion at Exton Station provides an opportunity to attract additional R5 rail customers as they look for alternatives to traffic congestion on the U.S. 202 Corridor. The expansion will be completed by 2009.

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

For More Information

- Compass Commuter Pass Program**
www.thecommuterschoice.com
- Delaware County TMA (DCTMA)**
610-892-9440
www.dctma.org
- Emergency Ride Home**
www.share-a-ride.org
- Federal Highway Administration**
www.fhwa.dot.gov
- GVF Transportation (Greater Valley Forge TMA)**
610-354-8899
www.gvftma.com
- Krapf**
Public transit: 610-431-6015
Rover (paratransit): 610-594-3911
877-873-8415 (toll free)
www.krapfbus.com
- PennDOT**
610-205-6700
www.dot.state.pa.us
www.us202-300.com
- Pottstown Urban Transit (PUT)**
610-323-5020
www.atlantic4us.com/pages/put_daylines.html
- SEPTA**
215-580-7800
www.septa.org
- Share-a-Ride**
www.share-a-ride.org
- TMA of Chester County (TMACC)**
610-993-0911
SCCOOT: 877-612-1359 (toll free)
www.tmac.org
- TransitChek**
www.gettransitchek.org
- U.S. 202**
www.us202.com
www.us202-300.com