

Update on Riverside Drive in Lower Saucon Township

PennDOT's District staff, along with PennDOT's Northampton County staff, completed a constructability review this week.

PennDOT has identified a total of eight locations on Riverside Drive that need repairs (with one location having the most severe damage) due to washed out areas of the roadway and/or slopes.

They have developed a plan to make repairs to the eight locations.

Seven of the locations will be treated with a combination of soil, rock and gabion baskets (rectangular wire mesh baskets filled with rock to form retaining walls – typically for erosion control for bank stabilization, and channel linings).

The other location with the most severe damage will be treated with a concrete slab that will “bridge” the washed out area and provide support for the road above.

Coordination with Norfolk Southern Railroad is necessary as portions of the repairs will require temporary suspensions of train operations. PennDOT staff will soon begin this coordination.

The cost estimate range is \$400,000 - \$600,000. They anticipate work beginning at some of the locations this fall with full completion in spring 2016 (due to the nature of the work, operations will be suspended during winter months). The work will be performed by PennDOT maintenance employees.

Regards,

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