



South St. Bridge Reconstruction Project Frequently Asked Questions



1. When is the project scheduled to start?

The project will begin on December 8, 2008. The project will involve the complete demolition of the existing bridge and its support structures and the construction of a completely new bridge.

2. What are the boundaries of the project?

The construction boundaries are from 27TH St. on the east side of the Schuylkill River to Convention Ave. on the west side. The total length of the bridge and the elevated roadway (viaduct) is approximately 1,900 ft.

3. How long will the project take to complete?

The entire project (demolition and reconstruction) is expected to take up to 24 months.

4. Will bike lanes and sidewalks remain open during construction?

No. Because the existing bridge will be completely demolished, the Philadelphia Streets Department will be unable to keep the sidewalks or roadway open.

5. Will the South St. exit from the Schuylkill Expressway (I-76) remain open?

No. The South St. exit & entrance ramps will be closed for the duration of the project. The ramps will reopen after the new bridge is completed.

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6. What transportation alternatives are available?

The Streets Department strongly advises commuters to use SEPTA's regional rail, subway-surface trolley lines and the Market St. subway for the duration of the project.

Pedestrians can cross the Schuylkill River using the Walnut St. Bridge which is located approximately 4/10^{ths} of a mile north of the South St. Bridge.

The nearest alternate bicycle routes across the Schuylkill River are the Chestnut St. Bridge (east bound) and the Walnut St. Bridge (west bound).

7. What SEPTA services are available?

SEPTA's **University City regional rail station** is located at South St. & Convention Ave. The station directly serves the R-1, R-2 and R-3 regional rail lines. The station is located less than a block from Franklin Field and the Palestra. The University of Pennsylvania Campus, the Drexel University Campus, the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania (HUP) and Children's Hospital (CHOP) are within walking distance. Transfers to and from the R-1, R-2 and R-3 lines to all other SEPTA regional rail lines can be made through 30TH Street Station.

SEPTA **subway-surface trolley stations** are located at 22nd & Market Sts., 30th & Market Sts., 33rd & Market Sts., 36th & Sansom Sts., 37th & Spruce Sts. and 40th St. & Baltimore Ave. Trolley lines include the 11, 13, 34 and 36 routes.

SEPTA's **Market St. subway stops** are located at 30th St. 34th St., and 40th St.

The **Route 7 bus** operates north/south using 22nd and 23rd streets with transfers at Market Street to the subway-surface trolleys.

The **Route 12 bus** operates along Grays Ferry Ave. with limited weekday service into University City.

Other SEPTA routes serving the impacted areas include the Route 10 subway-surface trolley and bus routes 21, 30, 40, 42 and LUCY.

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8. I am driving to West Philadelphia using the Schuylkill Expressway (I-76). What alternate exits are recommended?

For access to **Children’s Hospital**, the **Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania**, **Veterans’ Administration Hospital**, **Penn-Presbyterian Hospital**, the **Penn Veterinary Hospital** and the **University of Pennsylvania Campus**, the University Ave. exits are recommended (westbound - 346A, eastbound - 346B).

From eastbound I-76 to the **Drexel University Campus** and the **University City Science Center**, the Girard Ave. (342) and the Spring Garden St. (343) exits are recommended. From westbound I-76, the University City exit (346A) is recommended.

9. Where can I obtain additional information?

- Project website: www.PHILA.GOV/SOUTHSTREETBRIDGE
- University of Pennsylvania website: www.PUBLICSAFETY.UPENN.EDU
- SEPTA website: www.SEPTA.ORG
- SEPTA phone number: 215-580-7800
- Penn DOT: www.DOT.STATE.PA.US/PENNDOT/DISTRICTS/DISTRICT6.NSF