

BOOT ROAD OVER AMTRAK BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE, AUGUST 2026

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/BOOT-RD-OVER-AMTRAK](https://bit.ly/boot-rd-over-amtrak)

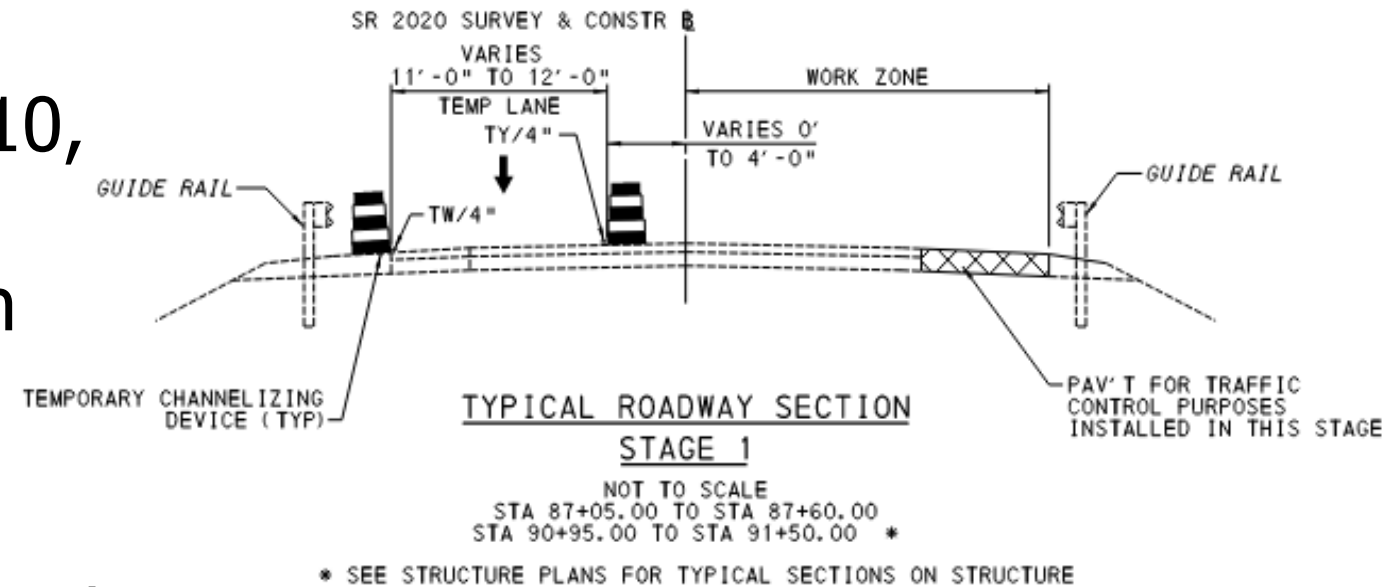


Pennsylvania
Department of Transportation

CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

Construction Phase Start

- Notice to Proceed issued July 10, 2023.
- Utility and Amtrak coordination began.
- Work began Fall 2023.
 - Clearing began in October under short-term closures (flagging).
 - Stage 1 began in early November, with eastbound closure of Boot Road.
 - Stage 1 directional detour was pulled late-November 2023 due to safety concerns. Both directions re-opened.



CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW - CLOSURE

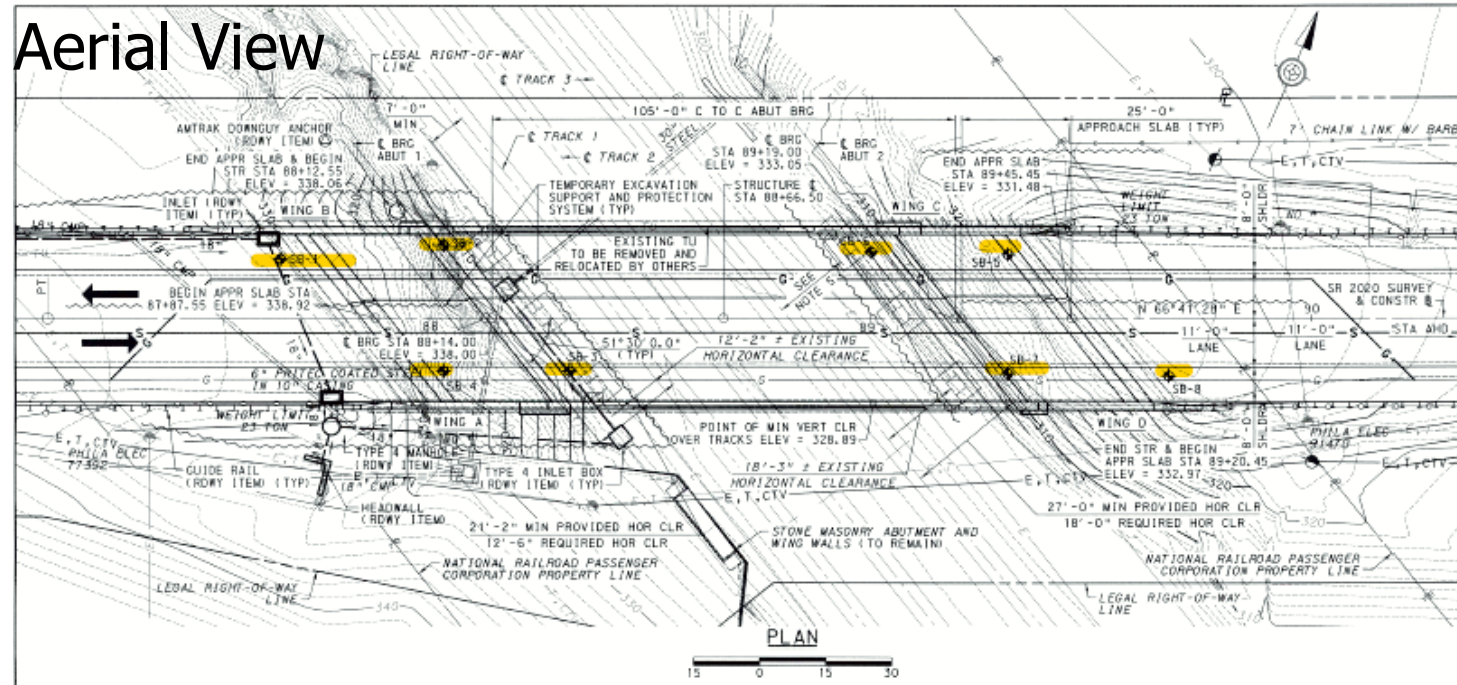
- Roadway construction continued under short-term patterns (flagging) through January 2024.
- February 2024, work was on-hold pending utility relocation.
- The Department decided to switch to a full detour due to safety concerns in early 2024.
- Boot Road closed on September 22, 2025, and work resumed.
- Footing excavation occurred, March 2026.



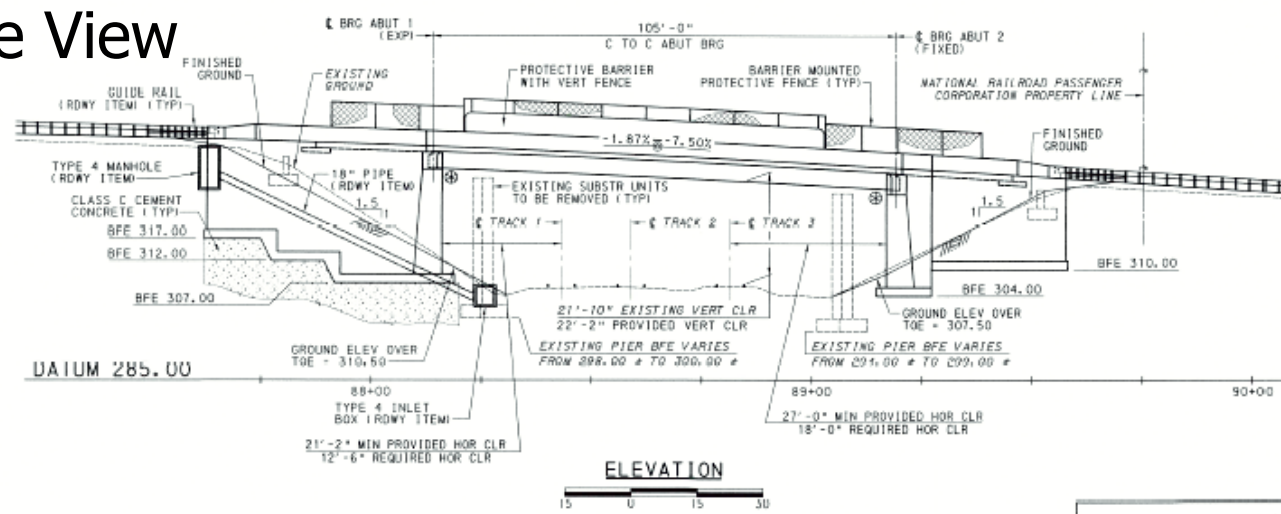
UNFORESEEN SITE CONDITIONS

Original bridge design based on exploratory boring samples (see highlights), before drilling during construction established need for deep foundation.

Aerial View



Side View



UNFORESEEN SITE CONDITIONS

Visual example of a karst formation.

(Not a photo of Boot Road photo, but an example of the rare type of geology only found in the limestone bedrock.)



UNFORESEEN SITE CONDITIONS



**Abutment 2,
east side of Boot Road**

BRIDGE ABUTMENT REDESIGN

Post Subgrade Discovery and Redesign

- 3/12/26 – Footing inspection identified initial problem and need for new design.
- 4/23/26 – Conceptual plan received from project designer.
- 5/8/26 – Micropile design received from contractor.
- 5/18/26 – Redesign reviews at PennDOT District Office and Central Office.
- 5/27/26 – Redesign sent to Amtrak for review.
- 6/5/26 – Amtrak returned comments and design approval.
- 6/5/26 – PennDOT District and Central office approved final design. (Only 3 weeks)
- 6/22/26 – H&K remobilized to start prep work for drilling operations
- 8/17/26 – Final micropile (foundation) material delivered.
- 8/24/26 – Work resumed to start drilling.

REMAINING MILESTONES

- Complete Micropile Drilling
- Complete Both Concrete Abutments and wingwalls
- Set Beams (coordinated track outage required)
- Pour Bridge Deck (winter restrictions)
- Relocate PECO Gas Main (winter restriction)
- Remove Temporary Gas Support Structure (coordinated track outage required)
- Install new West Whiteland Sewer Main
- Final Paving (temperature restrictions)
- Bridge Completion Anticipated – Spring 2027

