



## ***Sewickley Bridge Construction Project Ambulance Response Planning Document***

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PennDOT has announced it will begin a major preservation project on the Sewickley Bridge. The project is anticipated to start in April or May of 2020. The bridge construction project is expected to result in significant traffic changes.

Quaker Valley Ambulance Authority ("QVAA") will be coordinating with PennDOT, its' contractors and other local public safety entities In an effort to assure prompt ambulance response times to all municipalities in the VAA and QVAA service areas during the bridge construction project.

The current PennDOT plan includes nightly single-lane restrictions for preparatory work, weekend closures, and a 10-to-14-day full closure of the bridge.

QVAA plans to monitor traffic congestion, ambulance call volume and transport issues in an effort to minimize response times and avoid transport delays. Ambulance staffing levels will be monitored and adjusted, as necessary, to meet the ambulance demand during the Sewickley Bridge construction project.

It is anticipated that the bridge will remain accessible to emergency vehicles during the one lane closure periods. Normal response procedures and operations will be maintained during these periods of single lane closures. QVAA will monitor traffic volumes and related congestion during peak and non-peak times in order to determine if it should post a staffed ambulance at other various pre-designated post locations to help facilitate prompt EMS response times.

QVAA has accepted an offer from the Cochran Hose Company, to post a staffed ambulance at its station, located at 601 Thorn St. (Sewickley Municipal Building), at various times during the bridge construction project. QVAA anticipates that this post location and other predesignated post locations will be utilized during periods when the Sewickley Bridge is closed to all traffic. (planned week-end closures, the 10-14 day closure) and other peak demand times.

QVAA also plans to continue its work with local fire departments which provide quick response services ("QRS") including the Cochran Hose Company, Leetsdale VFD and the Big Sewickley Creek VFD to provide initial lifesaving care to critical patients, prior to the arrival of an ambulance, in QVAA municipalities.

QVAA will coordinate and communicate with the Allegheny County 911 Center, other local public safety entities and surrounding mutual aid ambulance companies to help assure the availability of additional resources, when necessary.