

NEWS *from Middletown, Pa.*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Major detours go into effect Monday on Route 230

Major detours will go into effect Monday, March 16, on Route 230 in Middletown as work gets underway to replace aging water and sewer pipes beneath the street.

The project will replace or rehabilitate around 6,000 linear feet of severely deteriorated and failing sanitary sewer lines under the road, which is known locally as Main Street. The water main along the entire route will also be replaced. Work is being timed to be completed in August, when PennDOT plans to repave Route 230.

By doing the work prior to PennDOT's repaving project, Middletown will save more than \$250,000 that would have been spent on asphalt for repaving the street if the Borough had to repave it. Even larger savings will come from using innovative cured-in-place resin lining to rehabilitate many sections of the sanitary sewer mains.

The process involves pulling a resin saturated fiber tube through the existing pipes. That tube is then expanded using water or air pressure, and heat cured. The result is a seamless, jointless pipe that is corrosion resistant and has an expected lifespan of more than 50 years.

Using the cured in place resin technology offers several advantages, not the least of which is cost savings. It costs around \$40 per foot to use cured in place resin pipe. Traditional pipe costs around \$110 per foot to replace.

Part of the savings comes from not having to dig a trench to replace the pipe. Instead the resin tube is inserted through existing manholes. This will be particularly beneficial in this case since Route 230 is built on a 12 to 16 inch thick reinforced concrete base.

To get an idea of how cost efficient the cured in place resin process is, consider this: The cost of the Route 230 project, which is nearly a mile long, is just over \$2.5 million. That is just 60 percent more than last summer's similar project on Union Street, even though the project is three times as long.

Work on the project will begin east of Hoffer Street and will move west in five stages. Trucks and most through traffic will be detoured using state Route 283. Local traffic detours will shift with each stage of the project.

Emergency contingency plans will be in place should something happen that shuts down Route 283. Detour plans also will be coordinated with the traffic control plan for this summer's downtown streetscape enhancement project on Union Street.

That project is set to go to bid April 1, with an eye on an early summer start date.

For maps and details about the Route 230 project, go to <http://www.middletownborough.com/projects/route230>