



**INTERSTATE I-270 EISENHOWER HIGHWAY) FROM  
MD 124 (MONTGOMERY VILLAGE AVENUE) TO THE  
SENECA CREEK CROSSING NEAR GAME PRESERVE  
ROAD IN GAITHERSBURG**

**INTERCHANGE CONSTRUCTION  
BEGINS THIS AUGUST**

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) will begin the clearing and grubbing and stakeout phases this August for the above-mentioned project. Equipment used for construction may be disruptive.

Permissible work hours for this phase of work are 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays, however; additional work hours may be necessary to expedite the work and keep the project on schedule. For more information about this project, please contact Mr. Bill Kucharek, SHA District 3 Area Engineer at 301-513-7452.

## **MDOT SHA ANNOUNCES START OF I-270 INTERCHANGE PROJECT AT WATKINS MILL ROAD**

The Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) has announced the start of construction of the \$97.71 million I-270 interchange project at Watkins Mill Road. This major congestion relief project will improve one of Maryland's most heavily traveled roadways in Montgomery County, benefiting tens of thousands of travelers who drive the I-270 corridor.

The 1.25-mile project extends between MD 124 (Montgomery Village Avenue) and the Great Seneca Creek crossing near Game Preserve Road in Gaithersburg. The I-270 Corridor is regionally known as the Technology Corridor, and is home to dozens of thriving businesses and planned development in the Gaithersburg area. Montgomery County contributed \$4.9 million for the design and engineering phase of the project.

The I-270/Watkins Mill Road interchange will include a new four-lane bridge over I-270, with connecting entry and exit ramps that will provide direct access for interstate travelers. This connection will reduce congestion at the I-270/MD 124 interchange and the MD 124/MD 355 intersection.

To complete the project by summer 2020, the Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration (MDOT SHA) advertised the project using A+B bidding, an innovative cost plus time approach, ensuring that a cost is assigned to each working day. This ensures that the public impact and construction period are heavily considered as part of the determination for award of the project. Wagman Heavy Civil of York, Pa. will serve as the state's contractor.

The new interchange will enhance additional economic opportunities for the middle and upcounty areas in Montgomery County. Currently, Watkins Mill Road does not connect visitors and residents to the Gaithersburg Medical Center, Metropolitan Grove MARC Station, Montgomery County Police Department, homes, and businesses. Drivers on either side of I-270 must use MD 117 (Clopper Road), MD 355 (Frederick Avenue), or MD 124 (Quince Orchard Road) to reach these areas.

Additional work as part of the project includes resurfacing the I-270 collector/distributor lanes and a section of Watkins Mill Road, constructing retaining walls, extensive stream restoration, and construction of culverts and drainage structures.

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