The Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Drive Bridge was opened in 1966 and provides a connection between the MLK Drive and Eakins Oval. It is a parallel route to I-76 and Kelly Drive and is used by vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle traffic. This rehabilitation project will replace and widen the bridge deck to ensure structural integrity; meet current design standards; and, accommodate a side path for pedestrians and cyclists. Improvements are consistent with the citywide Vision Zero Program.

Project Needs

- Rehabilitate the structure to ensure structural integrity and meet current design standards
- Maximize service life of the bridge with preventative maintenance and rehabilitation
- Improve user safety and create a more functional bridge crossing between MLK Drive and the Art Museum for all users, including pedestrians and cyclists

Planned Improvements

- Replace bridge deck
- Perform miscellaneous structural steel repairs
- Clean and paint the superstructure
- Widen to provide a two-way, 10’ shared use path on the outbound side of the bridge.
- Install both pedestrian and bicycle compatible railings
- Install updated pedestrian scale lighting

What to Expect During Construction

- The bridge will be closed to all users for a period of 24 months.
- Vehicular detour will be posted.
- The Schuylkill River Trail passing beneath the bridge will be closed for up to six months. A detour will be posted.

For more information, email: MLK.bridge.rehab@phila.gov

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

- Preliminary Engineering Complete
  Late Spring 2020
- Final Design Complete
  Late Fall 2020
- Public Open House
  Winter/Spring 2021
- Construction Begins
  Fall 2021
- Construction Complete
  Fall 2023

Project Funding Partners

- City of Philadelphia
  Department of Streets
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation