

**Location:** City of Latrobe, Westmoreland County, District 12-0

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**Completion Date:** 9.01.01

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**Construction Cost:** \$923,000

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**MPMS #:** 31778

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**Themes:** Accommodate all modes of travel

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**Project Overview:** This project involved a non-typical approach to the challenges caused by older transportation infrastructure. The challenge involves a railway bridge and underpass that connects to a commercial area. The railway bridge had a limited clearance (9'-6"), forcing commercial and emergency vehicles to use alternate routes to the commercial area.

Instead of replacing the existing arch, the roadway was lowered to achieve adequate clearance. The design team applied flexibility in design, which resulted in a couple of design exceptions, to arrive at a workable solution. The design exception involved the use of a 20mph design speed and 14' clearance envelope for the arch.

A number of public and municipal involvement opportunities assured that functional needs and impacts were identified and addressed throughout the project.

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**Lessons Learned:** Smart Transportation means utilizing creative, out-of-the-box approaches to solving transportation problems. Design exceptions do not mean failure. Flexibility in design is necessary to preserve existing infrastructure and ensure that a design solution accommodates surrounding context.

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# unity street bridge

