



NEWS RELEASE

CENTRE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rethinking 322

A Community Resource · CentreHistory.org/Connector

Rethinking 322, Strategies for the Proposed State College Area Connector in Penns-Brush Valley is a new resource booklet designed to help inform local residents' responses to PennDOT's State College Area Connector project—is now available online from the Centre County Historical Society, at CentreHistory.org/connector.

The booklet is the outgrowth of a partnership between Department of Landscape Architecture in the Stuckeman School at Penn State, the Historical Society and the Hamer Center for Community Design. Based on research and design projects by students in Penn State's Landscape Architecture 414 studio class, taught by associate professor Paul Daniel Marriott, PhD.

The fresh ideas presented in "Rethinking 322" may help local residents as they respond to PennDOT's recently released DRAFT Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Report for the State College Area Connector Project. The Draft PEL report is now available for public review and comment for a 30-day period. All comments must be received by March 19, 2023. The PEL Study may be found at this link: <https://www.penndot.pa.gov/RegionalOffices/district-2/ConstructionsProjectsAndRoadwork/SCAC/Pages/PELstudy>

Community input is critical in this effort. Comments may be emailed to Dean Ball, PE at Deball@pa.gov or in writing to PennDOT District 2-0, 70 PennDOT Drive, Clearfield, PA 16830, Attn: Dean Ball, PE.

In the 2022 fall semester at Penn State, Dr. Marriott and the LARCH 414 Studio students used PennDOT's State College Area Connector project as a case study. They explored creative approaches to transportation infrastructure that are safe and efficient, protective of the natural environment and historical and cultural resources, and aligned with community values. Dr. Marriott is an associate professor of landscape architecture at Penn State. He has advised transportation agencies across the United States on how they might address community needs and values in project design.

There were many questions about how the Route 322 corridor between Potters Mills Gap and Boalsburg would be forever changed by the impact of a limited access highway. There was a desire to participate in defining what this road could look like, minimizing negative impacts to this road that is located in the Penns-Brush Valley Rural Historic District.

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CENTRE FURNACE MANSION

1001 East College Avenue ▪ State College, Pennsylvania 16801 ▪ 814-234-4779 ▪ centrehistory.org



LARCH 414 studio class during a survey of the regional trail, sound barriers and plantings along the MD Route 200/Intercounty Connector (ICC) Trail. Students (left to right), Joseph Notte, Tyler Shumaker, Coleman Riegle, Desire Rivera, Abigail G. Rodgers, David Wasson, Keith Faminiano, Erik Forsten
Photo courtesy of Paul Daniel Marriott



Paul Daniel Marriott, PhD., Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, Penn State

Photos from October 2022 Charette: *Designing the Future: Exploring Options for 322 and Penns-Brush Valley*
Photos: Centre County Historical Society



Model of 322 Corridor made by LARCH 414 to more visually study to identify potentially negative impacts.