

BRIDGE, CONSTRUCTION OF AUTHORIZED
Act of Jun. 4, 1943, P.L. 883, No. 369
AN ACT

Cl. 36

Authorizing and directing the Department of Highways to erect and maintain, as a post war construction project, a toll bridge over the Allegheny River between a point in or near the Borough of Tarentum, Allegheny County, and a point in Westmoreland County, and to provide the necessary approaches and connections with State highways; providing for the acceptance of Federal aid; empowering counties to pay certain damages; providing for the collection of tolls on such bridge; and making an appropriation.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. The Department of Highways is hereby authorized and directed to erect and construct a toll bridge over the Allegheny River from a convenient point in or near the Borough of Tarentum in Allegheny County, to a point on the opposite side of said river in the County of Westmoreland, to connect the State highways on both sides of said river and to acquire the necessary land for approaches thereto.

In the construction of said bridge and the approaches thereto and connections with existing State highways, the Department of Highways shall have, with the approval of the counties affected,--namely, Westmoreland and Allegheny, all of the powers and authority conferred, with respect to the relocation, widening or construction of State highways, including the exercise of the power of eminent domain. Any damages sustained by reason of taking property in the relocation, widening or construction of any such bridge, the approaches thereto and connections with State highways, shall be ascertained in accordance with laws applicable to the ascertainment of damages in relocating, widening or constructing State highways, and such damages, when ascertained, shall be paid by the Commonwealth or county or counties as may be agreed upon in accordance with the laws relating to State highways.

Section 2. The Department of Highways is hereby authorized to accept grants of funds from any Federal agency for the construction of such bridge and the approaches thereto, and connections with State highways. Any such moneys shall be held by the State Treasurer, as custodian for the Department of Highways, and the same shall be paid out on requisition of the department without further appropriation.

Section 3. If such bridge is to be constructed under contract and to be paid for wholly or in part from Federal funds, and the project involves additional work to be contracted and paid for by a county or counties, the advertisement by the Department of Highways shall be the only advertising necessary, any other acts or requirements to the contrary notwithstanding.

Section 4. The Department of Highways shall have authority

to make and carry out contracts and to do every other act necessary to carry out the project herein authorized, and is authorized to conform to the requirements and rules and regulations of the proper Federal authorities with respect to such projects, if Federal moneys are advanced for such project. Nothing herein contained shall in anywise diminish any authority or powers now or hereafter conferred on the Department of Highways by any other act of Assembly.

Section 5. The construction of the bridge, for which funds are appropriated by this act, shall be included among the various public works projects to be undertaken by the Commonwealth after the termination of the present war, as a means of facilitating the transition from a war to a peace economy.

Section 6. After the effective date of this amending act, the bridge and its approaches and connecting highways shall be maintained by the Department of Highways, free of tolls, for the use of the public. Any moneys advanced by the Commonwealth, the Federal Government or any agency thereof, or advanced or paid by any county, which have not heretofore been paid, shall be paid out of the Motor License Fund. As much of the moneys in the Motor License Fund as are necessary therefor are hereby appropriated to the Department of Highways for this purpose.

(6 amended July 18, 1961, P.L.783, No. 344)

Section 7. The sum of four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$4,500,000) or so much as is necessary for the preparation of plans for the construction of said bridge and approaches thereto and connections with State highways and for the payment of damages for property taken or destroyed, and for the construction of said bridge and approaches thereto, is hereby appropriated out of moneys in the Motor License Fund to the Department of Highways for said purposes.

(7 amended May 9, 1949, P.L.985, No.286)