Identified safety and operational issues at key intersections

There are several intersections along Butler Pike that pose safety and operational issues due to poor intersection geometry, poor sight distance, high volume of turning movements, and lack of pedestrian crossings. The following intersections were identified to have poor intersection geometry or capacity deficiencies:

- North Lane
- Ridge Pike
- Germantown Pike
- Narcissa Road
- Township Line Road
- Skippack Pike
- Morris Road
- Welsh Road

The intersection of Germantown Pike and Butler Pike is one of the most critical and challenging. Butler Pike is offset by approximately 100 feet. This, along with high traffic volumes on both roads, has resulted in the highest concentration of crashes along Butler Pike. Additionally, this intersection is the crossroads of the Plymouth Meeting Village and is within a National Historic Register District. Community members expressed an interest in improved pedestrian connections at this intersection.

Overall lack of connectivity for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders

Butler Pike is located in a fairly densely populated area of Montgomery County and connects the communities of Ambler, Plymouth Meeting, and Conshohocken. However, much of the corridor lacks basic facilities to support biking and walking. Community members shared their support for sidewalks, trails, and/or on-road bicycle facilities along the corridor. Additionally, connections to and amenities at bus stops along the corridor were highlighted by stakeholders. Pedestrian crossings were noted as a need particularly at the intersections of Ridge Pike and Welsh Road. Improving multimodal connectivity is a high priority for community leaders along Butler Pike.

Poor access management for commercial centers

There are several shopping centers along Butler Pike with multiple commercial driveways or wide open driveways without proper access and traffic controls. In some areas, it is difficult to distinguish the edge of the roadway with the start of a parking lot. This impacts safety and operations for vehicular travel, as well as safety for bicyclists and pedestrians crossing the access ways.

Close intersection spacing and lack of traffic signal coordination

Since Butler Pike is located in a developed area, there are many signalized and stop controlled intersections along the corridor. High traffic volumes and turning movements have led to the installation of traffic signals at many of these intersections. The density of intersections along with lack of traffic signal coordination and interconnectivity negatively impact operations along the corridor. Additionally, some traffic signal equipment is out of date and there is a need for upgraded signal technologies.

Constraints to providing dedicated infrastructure along the corridor

The urban/suburban nature of Butler Pike means that, in many areas, there is limited space to accommodate additional transportation facilities. Along many segments of the corridor, structures, utility poles, residential fences/decorative walls and heavily wooded and vegetated areas close to the roadway impact the feasibility of implementing some improvements such as wider shoulders, additional travel lanes, vehicle turning lanes, on-road bicycle facilities, pedestrian facilities, or stormwater management facilties.