



# Homestead to McKeesport Upgraded Transit

PA-837 is a busy arterial corridor that generally follows the southern/western shore of the Monongahela River from the City of Pittsburgh south through the mid-Mon Valley. The 61C bus route operates along this corridor, and currently has plans to see improvements on its inner half by the Downtown-Uptown-Oakland-East End Bus Rapid Transit project. Much of the corridor falls within areas that rate high on both the transit propensity and equity scale, including Homestead, Duquesne, and McKeesport.

Major attractions along the corridor include Sandcastle Water Park, Kennywood Amusement Park, the Waterfront (retail and amusement), and the Great Allegheny Passage trail. The Port Authority currently operates bus service via the 61C and there are transit shelters located sporadically along the corridor. Park and Ride lots are in West Mifflin (Duquesne Blvd/Library Pl) and McKeesport (Lysle Blvd/Huey St), though their future uses could be expanded to include development of affordable housing, community-serving retail, and other services. Potential challenges to corridor upgrades include that it borders the railroad corridor and much of the southern portion is a four-lane divided highway, both of which restrict access.

This project would prioritize the design of transit amenity and right-of-way solutions along this corridor that support transit riders through stop optimization, addition of shelters, accessible pedestrian pathways, transit reliability, and travel time improvements for transit vehicles. Potential capital improvements that could be included as part of the transit upgrades include:

**Dedicated Lanes:** Curbside running, dedicated bus-only lanes

**Queue Jumps:** Queue jumps may be considered at certain locations to further facilitate fast and reliable bus operations.

**Enhanced/Branded Stations:** Enhanced bus stations, based on existing bus stops, intersection locations, and corridor activity generators, could consist of a platform with shelters, passenger seating, signage, real-time passenger information, bicycle racks, ticket vending machines for improved fare collection, and trash receptacles.

**Traffic Signals:** Traffic signal modifications or replacements may include altering existing geometric and striping plans, upgrading controller equipment, or adding transit signal priority (TSP) to improve traffic progression, provide bus priority, improve bus service reliability, and to reduce delays.

**Sidewalks and Crosswalks:** This could include extending existing and/or construction new sidewalk connections and adding high-visibility crosswalks to improve the first mile/last mile commute for riders.

**Transit Hubs:** Study the potential for a major transit hub in Homestead with local service tie-ins.

Municipalities involved: Homestead Borough, Munhall Borough, Whitaker Borough, West Mifflin Borough, City of Duquesne, City of McKeesport

Past Planning Studies: SPC Mon Valley Places Study 2014 & Eastern Corridor Transit Studies 2003/2006

**61C BUS  
ROUTE  
CORRIDOR  
THROUGH  
PITTSBURGH**

**HOMESTEAD**

**THE  
WATERFRONT**

**MUNHALL**

**R**

**WHITAKER**

**KENNYWOOD**

**DUQUESNE**

**WEST MIFFLIN**

**MCKEESPORT**

