

**UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY**  
**July 11, 2018**

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 in the Township Building, 175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA. The meeting was called to order at 7:25 p.m. and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

**ATTENDANCE**

Tom Kohler, Chairman  
Lou Zotti, Vice-Chairman  
Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer  
Carlton Stuart, Secretary  
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison  
Sally Slook, Acting Township Manager  
Nick Hiriak, Director of Finance  
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)  
Noah Marlier, Rudolph Clarke, LLC  
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary and Staff Liaison to Transportation Authority

**ABSENT**

Edward O'Brien, Director of Public Works  
Ian Kingsley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:**

Chairman Kohler stated the Authority met in Executive Session prior to this meeting regarding litigation and personnel matters.

**MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:**

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of June 13, 2018 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Appointment of Executive Secretary**

Upon advice of the Solicitor, it was decided to table the discussion regarding the appointment of Executive Secretary until clarification is provided for Authority consideration.

**Authority Action:**

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to table the discussion as stated above. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

## **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

### **Development Plan Updates**

Ms. Slook provided a handout to Authority members and updated information on transportation impact fees for development plans which included one addition from last month's report for 3500 Horizon Drive.

Mr. Kohler suggested more frequent website updates of development plan status.

Mr. Philips stated serious consideration should be given to make electronic submission of plans mandatory.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

### **Relocated North Gulph Road (Including Cobblestone Restoration at Valley Forge Monument)**

BSA continued refinements to the draft Categorical Exclusion Evaluation for environmental clearance. BSA has been working with Gannett Fleming to advance project noise analysis and coordinated with AECOM on the borings to obtain the geotechnical data along the alignment of the new roadway. PennDOT has approved the subsurface exploration report which has determined the location and parameters of the proposed roadway borings. The next step is obtaining the required Special Use Permit from Valley Forge National Historical Park to stake out the proposed boring locations in the national park. Our subconsultant, AECOM will then issue a Request for Proposals from drilling contractors for the roadway borings once boring stakeout has been completed.

Mr. Zotti asked for clarification about jurisdiction for obtaining the borings on the state road going through federal property. Mr. Smyth responded PennDOT maintains the road; however, enforcement of traffic and vehicular code is the federal government's responsibility. He added a Special Use Permit is required from the federal government for any activities within the boundary of the Valley Forge National Historical Park.

BSA is also advancing the design for the cobblestone repairs at the Arch Memorial and submitted the draft scoping form to PennDOT.

### **SR 0023, Trout Creek Bridge**

BSA is in the process of developing a Preliminary Engineering milestone, the Safety Review and has obtained updated crash data for the last three years to advance the Safety Study as part of the Safety Review Submission. The study examines why crashes are occurring and what can be done to avoid future incidents. The associated Design Criteria Report summarizes all PennDOT design criteria standards being used based on the Design Speed, Design Vehicle and roadway typology.

Mr. Smyth noted McMahon Associates contacted him as a function of the Mancill Mill Road development proposal to coordinate with the SR 0023, Trout Creek Bridge project because a traffic signal is proposed at Mancill Mill Road as part of the SR 0023, Section TCB Project.

In response to Mr. Meneeley's question, Mr. Smyth indicated preliminary engineering started on the Trout Creek Bridge in 2007/2008 and culminated in a Pro Team Session Milestone Meeting at PennDOT where the design parameters of the bridge were developed for advancement. At that point in time the Authority was waiting for a commitment from PennDOT to fund the final design, right-of-way, utility relocation and construction. With the assistance of Representative Tim Briggs,

the funding commitment has been added to the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

### **Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line**

Mr. Smyth reported he was notified yesterday by Gannett Fleming that a sinkhole opened on the SEPTA tracks near the Church Road Bridge. SEPTA requested the Authority's approval that they be allowed to use all the boring and subsurface foundation information obtained from the design of this project. Approval was granted.

BSA has been pushing hard to secure agreements from SEPTA necessary for construction and is working with the Authority Solicitor and SEPTA to obtain construction agreements, Right-of-Way Clearance and D-419 Utility Clearance. Mr. Smyth noted the agreement SEPTA requires is for flagging services, fouling of the track and shuttle servicing for the outages.

Mr. Marlier provided a status report of the follow up actions being taken by his colleague, Georgeann Fusco, with SEPTA to move the agreements forward. He added the Authority Briefing quarterly meetings will provide an important emphasis on this priority.

BSA has been coordinating with Aqua, Peco gas and Peco electric as the major utility relocation items and reported on progress in obtaining the majority of utility clearance forms back from utility companies. BSA is awaiting comments from Aqua for the Temporary Utility Structure Plan. BSA met with Aqua twice and they are being very responsive. Peco gas is below the road and connected to the existing structure. They believe they can feed the gas main from other directions in order to abandon the existing gas main but will have to confirm that they do not need to be on the temporary utility structure going around the construction of the new bridge. Peco electric has been very responsive as well. BSA is also coordinating with Sunoco to obtain utility clearance for the project since they have a pipeline in the construction area parallel to Church Road which passes under the Route 100 line.

Mr. Smyth indicated the environmental aspects of the project have been completed and the culvert plans are under final review. BSA updated the Traffic Control Plan and resubmitted for approval to ensure current PennDOT standards are met.

Mr. Philips asked for an update on the project start. Mr. Smyth responded SEPTA is the major critical element for the construction timeline and with the help of the Solicitor, BSA is working toward advertisement by the end of the year. The PennDOT ECMS system indicates a Let Date of September but SEPTA's responsiveness to the execution of their Agreement, Temporary Construction Easement and Utility Relocation will dictate the schedule.

### **Prince Frederick Extension**

Since the last meeting, BSA obtained deeds from Montgomery County for the properties affected by the new alignment. Plot plans for aforementioned properties where appraisals will be requested are being prepared in time for the next Authority meeting in order to go out for Request for Proposals to obtain the appraisals.

Mr. Philips asked if appraisals are just for the condemned portion or all the properties involved. Mr. Smyth responded there are two alignments of the Prince Frederick Extension under consideration which involve multiple parcels based on whether the alignment proceeds through the Glasgow or Rossi tract. Plot plans are being developed for both alignments to determine the right-of-way costs

for each. It was noted from a project perspective the right-of-way costs being known up front might be a major factor in determining how the project moves forward.

Mr. Smyth commented the other element is the hazardous waste of one of the properties and what environmental due diligence is needed if that alignment is selected.

Mr. Kohler asked about the potential plans for a developer in this area and if it is being factored into the discussions. Mr. Philips responded the road the developer would like to build is not on the Rossi property. He mentioned ongoing discussions with the school district about purchasing that property.

#### **Potential New PA Turnpike Interchange at Henderson Road**

Mr. Smyth attended a DVRPC kick-off meeting last month. Montgomery County Planning Commission has entered into an agreement with DVRPC so they may provide peak hour turning movement forecasts for a No Build 2045 and PA Turnpike Henderson Road Build 2045 concept and see what type of local roadway improvements would be required if the Henderson Road Interchange becomes a reality. Mr. Smyth indicated after the meeting he met with Matt Edmonds, Transportation Planning Chief for the Montgomery County Planning Commission to discuss potential additional traffic projection tasks for the DVRPC study. Mr. Edmond was made aware of the push for the westbound on and off-ramp concept at the Valley Forge interchange and finding a way to incorporate it with what they are doing with Henderson Road.

Mr. Kohler provided an update on the KOP District's grant application for the westbound off/westbound on ramps at Valley Forge to tie into First Avenue/Moore Road. He said the KOP District has authorized preparation of a federal BUILD grant to construct the new westbound ramps. It was noted the Board of Supervisors has already passed a Resolution in support of those ramps. Econsult is submitting that Resolution as part of the application and as such indicates the Board's support of the KOP grant application.

Mr. Smyth commented he was contacted by Eric Goldstein to provide support with the grant preparation relating to traffic and schedule.

Mr. Kohler indicated State Representative Tim Briggs has also sent a letter of support on behalf of the KOP District's grant application.

#### **Grants for Act 209 Projects**

Mr. Smyth suggested an agenda item for the next quarterly meeting would be grant opportunities for the various Act 209 projects and setting priorities according to funds available for match. It was suggested to coordinate with Representative Briggs once priorities have been determined during the course of the quarterly meetings.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT – no report**

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT FOR JUNE 2018**

Ms. Sally Slook, Acting Township Manger, reviewed the financial report for June, 2018.

## REQUISITIONS – JULY 2018

Boles, Smyth Assoc.	\$ 9,164.82	Trout Creek Bridge Replacement Project for work performed for the period 5-1-18 thru 5-31-18 INVOICE #27
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 19,355.69	Relocation of North Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work performed 5-1-18 thru 5-31-18 INVOICE #54
Rudolph Clarke, LLC Suite 200 Seven Neshaminy Interplex Trevose, PA 19053	\$ 2,335.50	Professional Services General representation JUNE 2018 INVOICE #66882 \$1,539.00 INVOICE #66883 \$ 310.50 INVOICE #66884 \$ <u>486.00</u>  Total: \$2,335.50
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$30,856.01</u></b>	

### Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to approve the July 2018 requisitions in the amount of \$30,856.01. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

### ADDITIONAL BUSINESS - None

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 8:11p.m.

  
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**THOMAS KOHLER**  
**CHAIRMAN**

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Minutes Approved:  
Minutes Entered: