

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
November 9, 2011

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regularly scheduled meeting on November 9, 2011 in the Township Building, 175 West Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE

Michael Santillo, Chairperson
Louis Zotti, Vice-Chairman
Tad Hershey, Treasurer
Marvin Meneeley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Ronald G. Wagenmann, Executive Secretary
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
Edward J. O'Brien, Jr., Director of Public Works
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)
Joseph Pizonka, Esq., Solicitor, Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C
Greg Waks, Supervisor Liaison
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Carl Pinto, Secretary

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

It was moved by Mr. Hershey, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "aye" to approve the meeting minutes of October 12, 2011 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Act 209, Highway Assessment Study

Mr. Wagenmann stated that the subcommittee reviewed the Act 209 study proposals and narrowed it down to four companies who showed the most experience in doing Act 209 studies for other communities: T&M Associates, McMahon Associates, Pennoni Associates and HRG. Letters have gone out extending invitations to these firms for interviews to be held at the township building on November 30, 2011 starting at 7 p.m. Price envelopes will be opened after the interviews.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Ramp Opening

The ramp opening ceremony occurred on Friday, November 4. Mr. Wagenmann noted a serious accident in the vicinity that kept the ramp closed for four and one-half hours. Despite the accident, Mr. Smyth recognized the Authority's achievement and provided the members with a copy of the Newsletter announcing the Ribbon Cutting ceremony.

Henderson Road Sanitary Sewer Project

N. Abbonizio has agreed to do night work and is finalizing the schedule.

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River

A series of meetings are being scheduled with PennDOT and Federal Highway Administration in order to bring new federal staff up to date on some of the complexities of this project and agreements already negotiated with the National Park Service.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Project

Right-of-way with the O'Hara's still being finalized for the Church Road project. Mr. O'Hara is awaiting resolution of another right-of-way issue related to access under the PA Turnpike overpass to connect the waste company property off Henderson Road. Once that right-of-way is resolved O'Hara will be in a position to resolve the one with the township.

US 422/PA 363 Interchange

Moving forward in final design.

Signal Project

The project for additional traffic adaptive equipment along Route 202 is proceeding with installations anticipated for completion before "Black Friday."

Leyland Cypress trees

Replacement planting of all trees is completed. Green Giant Arbor Vitaes have been planted as an alternate to the Leyland Cypress species. Additional trees were planted as a result of the species change.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River (SR 3051 Section C22)

One remaining environmental coordination remains. The Section 106 Effects Determination needs to occur in order to have an approved environmental clearance document. This is on the agenda to discuss with Les Toaso so that a priority can be assigned on this at the PennDOT District to move this along to Final Design. Two requirements are needed to get into Final Design: Design Field View approval and environmental clearance approval. Design Field View approval has been obtained.

The National Park Service has progressed their Development Advisory Board proceedings and final approval is now out of the Regional Office and in Washington. All major decisions have been made and it is basically an administrative process at this point. Progress has also been made with the special use permits the contractor will need to actually do the work in the national park. Language is being negotiated between the park and PennDOT.

In regard to the Utility Clearance, extensive coordination has been done with PECO Gas/PennDOT and will continue to be done. A package has also been sent to Verizon for a minor relocation associated with the Trooper Road structure over the Schuylkill River Trail. A package has also been sent to Peco Electric to ensure there is no involvement with the overhead lines within the project area, especially across the Schuylkill River, during temporary construction activities or permanently.

Relocated North Gulph Road

Developing strategy for project implementation including approach to project right-sizing effort as required by the Agreement. Three baseline alternatives have been developed for a range of right-sized concepts. The alternatives include widening of the existing roadway, hybrid of the Relocated North Gulph Road/widen existing North Gulph Road concept and the Relocated North Gulph Road concept. At this time, the Relocated North Gulph Road alternative is the environmentally approved option; however, this option depends upon construction of the US 422 Eastbound "flyover" ramp.

The alternatives were developed so that the interdependence with the flyover ramp is gone and it can be done with the existing eastbound off ramp in place.

Our position is to have the relocated North Gulph Road as the alternative. That is what is environmentally cleared through Preliminary Engineering. A Section 4(f) evaluation was done. We will investigate whether there is a way to get the flyover ramp built so that the relocated North Gulph Road can be done by either being constructed in a timely manner as part of the larger US 422 Widening Project (SR 0422, Section SRB) or by advancing construction of the flyover ramp into our project and out of the US 422 widening project. Mr. Smyth emphasized that we really want to get the flyover built so that we can do what is environmentally approved through the Section 4(f) process and that is what the park wants as well. The plan is to get the cost estimate together and push priority number one which is the relocated option. At the same time fallback options are being developed in case word comes back that priority one cannot be done or priority one will not be done within a time frame that is acceptable to everyone.

Henderson Road Sanitary Sewer

N. Abbonizio indicated a PA One call required by the contract has been done. BSA asked that test pits be done to make sure that the sewer lateral from Shreiner Tree Care does not have conflicts with some of the existing utilities. The contractor has also done his pre-video of the construction site for their insurance purposes. We have been informed by contractor that they intend to begin work the night of Sunday, November 20th (8 p.m. until 6 a.m) or the following week. They will work four-day, 10-hour weeks (Sunday thru Wednesday). Letter notifications are to be sent to those in the area. N. Abbonizio is determining whether or not they want to proceed with the Saulin Boulevard weekend detour because they need to cross Saulin Boulevard with the sewer main. Contractor asked if there is the option to do it at night and BSA responded in the affirmative and asked that they send a request letter to indicate what the traffic control revisions will be. There are notes on the plans indicating that driveway access needs to be maintained during business hours.

Henderson Road Widening

Received good comments on Highway Occupancy Permit Plan and Report on November 9. There are no design-related comments that fundamentally change anything; other comments were minor and straightforward. One comment indicated that the pavement design needs a California bearing ratio number for the soil. It will be necessary to get two soil samples and have them tested so that the CBR value for the pavement design can be determined. Currently finalizing Erosion and Sediment Control Plan for submittal to Montgomery County Conservation District. BSA working with utility companies on relocation plans and will issue notifications to all utilities to let them know that PECO electric is moving their poles in February. The goal is to advertise the project at the end of the year in order to begin construction in March, 2012.

Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA Route 100 Line

The supplement has been approved and the remaining Final Design activities have begun. The culvert retaining walls are the main focus of this last effort. Culvert will replace two 36-inch pipes with a 96-inch pipe underneath Church Road. The Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Report was prepared by sub consultant and should be submitted early next week to Gannett Fleming for their review. Next step is to obtain borings and proceed with the retaining wall design.

PA Infrastructure Bank Loan

Mr. Wagenmann reported he received an email today from the Department of Community and Economic Development with four questions. Response will be prepared after consulting with BSA.

King of Prussia Business Improvement District

Mr. Wagenmann reported he was notified today that the King of Prussia Business Improvement District will present the township with an award for the ramp project on December 8 at Season's 52.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Director of Finance presented the Monthly Financial Report for November 2011. He reported on two investments that matured and inquiries he has made for reinvestment and provided the highlights for 2011 Revenues and Expenditures and the proposed Transportation Authority 2012 Budget.

REQUISITIONS - NOVEMBER 9, 2011

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$21,044.47	Multi-Use Trail Bridge Over the Schuylkill River SR 3051, Section C22 (Invoice #16)
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$12,170.76	SR 0076, Section RMP – Construction Phase Svcs. (Invoice #24)
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$37,508.81	SR 3029, Section HRD and SR 3039, Section SGR (Invoice #68)
Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C.	\$ 796.75	Professional Services for 9/14/11 and 9/28/11 (Invoice #29510)
Iron Mountain	\$ 203.77	Supplies – 50 boxes & lids to retire TA files (P.O. #: 982017)
PA Dept. of Transportation	\$ 92.38	Install Sub-Surface Sewer Facility, Highway Occupancy Permit, S. Henderson Road
TOTAL:	\$ 71,816.94	

Authority Action

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Hershey, all voting "Aye" to approve the November requisitions in the amount of \$71,816.94. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

RONALD G. WAGENMANN
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MICHAEL SANTILLO
CHAIRPERSON

Minutes Approved:

Minutes Entered: