

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
September 13, 2017

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, September 13, 2017 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

Tom Kohler, Chairman
Lou Zotti, Vice-Chairman
Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
David G. Kraynik, Executive Secretary
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison
Edward J. O'Brien, Director of Public Works
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)
Noah Marlier, Rudolph Clarke, LLC
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Ian Kingsley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of August 9, 2017 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Development Plan Updates

Lilly Pulitzer Development Plan, 800 Third Avenue - On August 24th the Board of Supervisors approved two, two-story office building additions totaling approximately 10,000 square feet for additional office space and warehouse facilities.

Mr. Zotti asked if this development would be subject to transportation impact fees. Mr. Kraynik said he would confirm with the Township Planner.

First Quality Development Plan, 601 Allendale Road – This plan was reviewed at a Board of Supervisors Workshop on September 7th. The applicant proposes site modifications to separate truck parking from office and manufacturing parking including changes to existing driveways, construction of an internal connector between disconnected lots along First Avenue and construction of a 104 count tractor trailer lot. The plan also includes construction of additional stormwater facilities on the 44 acre site. Mr. Kraynik indicated he would check with the Township Planner with regard to any transportation impact fees.

Francis E. Schultz, Jr. Development Plan, 541 Flint Hill Road – Construction of a 40,000 square foot one-story office building for recreational use and warehousing. Mr. Kraynik will confirm transportation impact fees with the Township Planner.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River

Abandonment process and transfer of ownership process is moving forward. Ordinances are required for Upper Merion and West Norriton Townships to donate the abandoned PennDOT SR 3051 Legal Right-of-Way to the National Park Service (NPS). The West Norriton Township ordinance was adopted on September 12, 2017 and the Upper Merion Township ordinance is scheduled for action on September 14, 2017.

The NPS has completed environmental due diligence on the PennDOT properties which is a condition of the abandonment and transfer of ownership process. Because of the complexity of the situation the NPS is tasked with finding a title search company to fulfill a final requirement for the transfer of ownership. The ordinance provides for a posted 30-day public comment period.

Mr. Zotti asked if the NPS would be responsible for the posting. Mr. Smyth responded each township would have to post their own ordinance.

Relocated North Gulph Road

The agreement has been authorized and BSA has initiated the CEE Re-Evaluation. The team has engaged with the subconsultants to assist in this effort. BSA met with the NPS in late August to identify potential design refinements for Relocated North Gulph Road including proposed access modifications to key NPS features (i.e., Ranger Station near Richards Road and the Kennedy Supplee Mansion near Station Lane and the Sullivan's Trail.) At first the NPS was supportive of extending the Ranger Station driveway to the Relocated North Gulph Road, but it appears they have reconsidered and will request an analysis to use the existing North Gulph road bed as a trace road to the Visitor Center area. This will maintain separation from vehicles on North Gulph Road and provide a dedicated area for ranger vehicles.

Mr. Smyth provided clarification to Mr. Kohler about the location of the gateway enhancements and indicated one of the big questions of this project is what to do with the utilities that are under the existing roadway. Some utilities have already done substantial relocation or upgrading of their facilities when Sullivan's Bridge was the Betzwood Bridge Vehicular Bridge project. PennDOT's has indicated the utilities should move their facilities to the new Relocated North Gulph Road. This will be one of the design team and PennDOT's main actions to be addressed.

Station Lane Connector Driveway

BSA had a meeting in late August with the NPS, Cultural Resource Specialists and the Natural Resource Specialist to evaluate potential impacts from the initial design proposals. As previously discussed the Station Lane Connector will go from Relocated North Gulph Road along the front of Kennedy Supplee Mansion and connect with Station Lane. This has been incorporated into the project and BSA is moving forward. The first step is archeological work along the proposed alignment. The NPS archaeologist determined that a site assessment for potential resources would be appropriate and NPS staff is currently performing this work.

Prince Frederick Extension

BSA continued coordination with Montgomery County and the Chester Valley Trail Extension Project with regard to the project design at the intersection of US 202 and Saulin Boulevard. As previously noted the County is prepared to acquire the Touk property (old bus depot) at US 202 and Saulin Boulevard as a temporary trailhead for parking. A permanent trailhead would be incorporated into the Prince Frederick Extension project which will accommodate the new roadway approach at the intersection. BSA has also continued property owner and boundary research in the area.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Finalizing Construction Inspection Services Request for Proposal (RFP) which will be advertised through PennDOT ECMS. BSA is preparing a revised construction schedule with a start date of March, 2018.

As previously noted it is necessary to build a temporary utility structure for Peco gas and Aqua as Stage 1 of construction. Stage 2 will replace the Frog Run culvert. Stage 3 will reconstruct the SEPTA bridge. Stage 4 will complete the roadway work. Some of the work from each stage may overlap, but work zone access will dictate when overlapping work is possible.

BSA prepared a CEE Re-evaluation during this period and are working toward the General Permit 11 and the NPDES permit submissions which are two major milestones remaining for the project.

Trout Creek Bridge

There has been some environmental work on the Scoping Field View, most notably the archaeology and BSA is finishing the Hydrologic and Hydraulic (H&H) analysis for the recommended SR 0023 Trout Creek structure concept which is important input for the Type, Size & Location (TS&L) submission. As mentioned at the last meeting BSA is shaping the channel with the goal of matching the 100-year flood elevation pre and post condition with no increase in elevation. However, there are two stream cross sections where a minimal increase is occurring between the pre and post condition (0.02 feet). Therefore, we will transmit the draft TS&L and H&H submission to PennDOT for discussion and review.

BSA is finalizing the updated utility verification plans based on the updates provided by the facility owners in preparation for a utility coordination meeting with PennDOT.

North Gulph Road Connector Multi-Use Trail

For informational purposes, Mr. Smyth mentioned The Valley Forge Park Alliance (VFPA), is soliciting proposals from qualified engineering firms, including BSA, to develop conceptual plans and cost estimates for a designated bicycle and pedestrian route to close the gap between the Village at Valley Forge development and the Joseph Plumb Martin Trail within the Valley Forge National Historical Park (VFNHP). After a brief discussion with Authority members, it was agreed there is no conflict of interest with the Transportation Authority.

Noah Marlier, Solicitor, stated these types of proposals come up in municipalities all the time and Mr. Smyth has done the right thing by bringing the RFP solicitation to the Authority's attention.

Additional Authority Comment

Mr. Kohler raised a question brought to his attention by a resident biker regarding the Rapid Flashing Beacon at Valley Forge National Historical Park as they drive eastbound and make a hard right going down the hill. He asked if there is a way an additional side flashing beacon could be installed and angled more at pedestrian eye level similar to a school crossing warning signal. Mr. Smyth

responded he has not heard anything from VFNHP on this and mentioned it could be looked at as part of the 2NG projects.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – none.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR AUGUST 2017

Mr. Nick Hiriak, Finance Director, reviewed the financial report for August 2017. It was noted a PIB loan payment was made and it will be reflected in next month's report.

REQUISITIONS – SEPTEMBER 2017

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 736.56	Trout Creek Bridge Replacement Project for work performed for the Period 7-1-17 thru 7-31-17 INVOICE #17
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 1,872.40	Construction Phase Services for Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Schuylkill River project for work performed 7-1-17 thru 7-31-17 INVOICE #41
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 3,919.09	East Church Road Bridge Replacement over SEPTA for work performed 7-1-17 thru 7-31-17 INVOICE #42
Boles, Smyth Assoc.	\$ 1,592.00	Relocation of North Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work performed 7-1-17 thru 7-31-17 INVOICE #44
Rudolph Clarke, LLC Suite 200 Seven Neshaminy Interplex Trevose, PA19053	\$ 621.00	Professional Services General Representation 7-5-17 to 7-27-17 INVOICE #63595
Pennoni Associates, Inc. P.O. Box 827328 Philadelphia, PA 19182-7328	\$ 5,080.00	Valley Forge Roadway Improvements INVOICE: 637088
Pennoni Associates, Inc. P.O. Box 827328 Philadelphia, PA 19182-7328	\$ 3,360.00	Valley Forge Roadway Improvements INVOICE #: 660839
TOTAL:	\$17,181.05	

Authority Comment:

Mr. Meneeley asked for clarification about the Penonni requisitions. Mr. Smyth responded these invoices are for the inspection services for the Valley Forge Roadway Improvements and were delayed since they were misdirected and did not reach UMTA until now.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Kohler, all voting "Aye" to approve the September 2017 requisitions in the amount of \$17,181.05. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Illuminated Street Signs

Mr. Kohler asked about the removal of illuminated street signs at traffic signals, especially around the Mall and along US 202, which are being replaced with standard signs. Mr. Kraynik responded these signs are becoming obsolete because of the lack of replacement parts. Mr. Philips said the Board of Supervisors has asked the Public Works Director to look at possible alternative manufacturers. Mr. Smyth mentioned luminaires and said a lot of signals have luminaires associated with them and they are getting brighter with LED's and shining more light which is helpful when illuminated street signs are taken out. With regard to illuminated signs, Mr. O'Brien indicated the new signs are reflective.

Mr. Kohler commented back in the 1980's and 1990's , especially near the Mall or along US 202 there were signs alerting drivers to the next traffic signal and this might be worth looking into in view of some of the new developments in Upper Merion Township.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THOMAS KOHLER
CHAIRMAN

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: