

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
March 8, 2017

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, March 8, 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
Ian Kingsley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison
David G. Kraynik, Executive Secretary
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

Edward J. O'Brien, Director of Public Works

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the meeting minutes of February 8, 2017 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Prince Frederick Concept Design

Mr. Smyth presented the technical and price proposal for the Prince Frederick Extension project and stated the overall thought process is to determine a preferred conceptual design in order to determine affected property owners, location of utility lines, environmental permitting requirements and necessary required right-of-way/easements. It is also important to make sure the design coordinates and complements the Chester Valley Trail at US 202 and Saulin Boulevard. The goal is to have a design set of plans to determine an Opinion of Probable Cost along with the anticipated right-of-way, utility and environmental permitting requirements before proceeding with the next steps. An RACP grant request was recently submitted and there are grants where this boulevard style approach and connection to the regional Chester Valley Trail would be potential funding sources.

Mr. Smyth described the seven (7) tasks associated with the Prince Frederick Concept Design.

The first task is to take the flight mapping that will be done in the next week or two and supplement this with the field survey work.

The second task is stakeholder coordination and determination of agency involvement requirements. This includes coordination with the Transportation Authority, Board of Supervisors, Lafayette

Ambulance and the adjacent Rossi property owner. Coordination will be required with the Montgomery County Planning Commission as it relates to the trail and with the environmental agencies to determine the level of permitting with this project.

The third task is a primary element in determining a recommended concept. The task includes the required engineering development based on Stakeholder Coordination.

The next step is to come up with the recommended alignment and then developing a set of plans that can be used in grant applications and coordinating with potential developers through the land development process. This would include the preferred concept's Opinion of Probable Cost.

Preliminary drainage design is a major component of all projects. Questions to be answered include: identifying drainage areas and patterns that are impacted and the basic drainage requirements for the proposed concept. Once assumptions for drainage are determined, the required right-of-way or drainage easements can be identified and a cost estimate developed.

Preliminary traffic control stages, traffic signal, pavement marking and signing. BSA would prepare a preliminary pavement marking and signing plan and identify a traffic control scheme. Traffic assumptions will be made based on traffic counts and information on how Saulin Boulevard operates. This information would serve as general guides for some intersection design and assumptions for traffic.

BSA will coordinate utility verification and identify relocation requirements through the placement of a PA One call.

BSA will work on right of way coordination and requirements, identify the parcels within this project area, and incorporate them into the mapping.

Mr. Smyth noted he and Dave Kraynik met with Rossi and Lafayette Ambulance and reviewed general concepts.

In response to a question regarding the Chester Valley Trail alignment, Mr. Smyth indicated the trail follows the old East Penn Railroad rail line within the Prince Frederick Extension project limits. The County purchased this 66 foot right-of-way and the rail line has been removed.

Mr. Kohler asked if there has been any discussion of a trail head for Chester Valley at this location. Mr. Smyth responded in the negative. He said trail heads beyond the Bill Smith Park and Ride have not been discussed. Mr. Kohler stated that is something that could be discussed further at some point.

A discussion followed about certain properties in the vicinity that could help accelerate the project.

Mr. Kohler mentioned the Prince Frederick Extension was discussed previously as a boulevard concept instead of a two lane road. He asked about having a landscaped median and one lane in each direction. Mr. Smyth responded he would want to work together with the township and Township Planner about landscaped medians that turn into left turn lanes as needed throughout.

It is also proposed to include a dedicated trail along the side of the boulevard. This would provide an overall multi-modal project which makes the project more competitive for grants.

Mr. Kohler said he agrees with having the median accommodate a center turn lane where necessary. He indicated as part of this design we should try and limit the number of driveways and access points onto this boulevard. If a developer submits a land development plan, then it will be critical to manage driveway access to minimize the need for left turn lanes.

Mr. Smyth pointed out the Prince Frederick Extension has many different functions. One of the biggest functions is that it is a ring road to reduce the US 202/Henderson Road intersection which is how it was justified for Act 209.

Mr. Kohler said if the Prince Frederick Extension becomes a longer trip with cars constantly making left turns it will defeat the purpose of providing relief for the light cycle at Henderson and US 202.

Mr. Kingsley asked if this whole concept design phase will take 12 months. Mr. Smyth responded it was a conservative estimate, but if a developer comes in with a land development plan it could be done sooner. The key is obtaining the base mapping.

Mr. Kingsley asked about the sequence of the tasks listed. Mr. Smyth responded all 7 tasks are parallel path tasks.

Mr. Kohler noted the Transportation Authority budget has about \$125,000 for the Prince Frederick Extension. Since it will probably be about 12 months away, the balance of funds will be carried over to next year and it should not affect our budget for this year.

Mr. Smyth pointed out there are also funds in the budget for the Henderson Road Interchange which does not have to be tapped to the full potential.

Mr. Kingsley asked how notifications are made to property owners. Mr. Smyth responded in the past he and Dave Kraynik met with the property owner as often as necessary.

Board Action:

It was moved by Mr. Kingsley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to approve the Prince Frederick Concept Design work for Boles, Smyth Associates in the amount Not to Exceed \$141,125. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Development Plan Updates

Mr. Kraynik stated there is a lot of development activity currently. He highlighted some of the projects that most likely will generate some transportation assessment fees for the Authority as follows:

Eddie V's Holdings, LLC, 680 West DeKalb Pike – Construction of this restaurant will begin in mid-October 2017 with a projected opening date of June 2018. Inter-Municipal liquor license approved February 16, 2017.

BPGS Construction Development Plan, 260 Mall Boulevard. Demolish existing LA Fitness Center and construct a new 10,000 square foot high-end restaurant, J. Alexander's which is a contemporary American restaurant known for its wood-fired cuisine.

Johnson Development Associates, Inc. Development Plan, S. Henderson and Shoemaker Roads, 4-story, 120,000 square foot self-storage building, 3.34 acres – first review by Board of Supervisors at March 2nd workshop meeting.

Other matters Mr. Kraynik discussed:

Gulph Elementary School Development Plan, 650 S. Henderson Road – will be considered at the March 16th business meeting.

Realen Valley Forge Greenes Association Development Plan, Woodfield Valley Forge, 580 S. Goddard Blvd. – will be considered at the March 16th business meeting for approval of their next phase, another 320 multi-family units.

Mr. Kraynik asked Authority members to mark their calendars for the Authority's Joint Meeting with the Board of Supervisors to be held on Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 7 p.m.

Mr. Kingsley asked if there will be a regular Authority meeting held the previous day on May 10th. Mr. Kraynik asked for this question to be placed on the agenda for the next Transportation Authority meeting.

Prompted by a question by Mr. Meneeley, a discussion was held about the current status of the Wawa on Prince Frederick Street.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Multi-Use Trail Bridge over the Schuylkill River

Working through the transfer of ownership issues and that is progressing.

Relocated North Gulph Road

PennDOT project manager had some comments on the proposal that was submitted and a full noise report has been requested. This is still in process.

Prince Frederick Extension

Discussed earlier in meeting.

Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Awaiting reply from PennDOT on the structure plans submitted January 30th. Awaiting Bog Turtle Screening Form, which is final item needed for the General Permit. Mr. Smyth spoke with the Montgomery County Conservation District as a pre-application phone call to orient the new reviewer doing the post construction stormwater management reviews. BSA also working with Nick Hiriak to get the construction inspection advertisements ready for the PennDOT ECMS system.

PA 23 Trout Creek Bridge

The Scoping Field View form was revised and PennDOT is still reviewing. The Utility Verification process is still underway. The sub-consultant on the team for Section 106 coordination is finishing up their review of the property on Mancill Mill Road.

Station Lane Connector Driveway – Conceptual Design Services

Coordination of the cooperative agreement is in process and being worked out.

Additional Comment from Engineer:

Mr. Smyth noted a question came from the township (in response to an observation by a driver) about the rutting at the approaches of Church Road Bridge. BSA's structural engineer went out and looked at everything and determined it is not a structural issue, but rather pavement rutting. As a precaution, Mr. Smyth asked the structural engineer to check this area once a month and make sure he has a baseline on everything.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

No report.

Mr. Zotti asked if anything happened with the Car Wash situation since the last meeting. Mr. Marlier responded in the negative. He indicated he sent correspondence to the 24-Hour Car Wash subsequent to the February meeting; there was no response to the letter.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2017

Mr. Nick Hiriak, Finance Director, reviewed the financial report for February 2017.

REQUISITIONS – FEBRUARY 8, 2017

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 14,021.85	Trout Creek Bridge Replacement Project for work performed for the Period 1-1-17 thru 1-31-17 INVOICE #10
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 575.12	Construction Phase Services for Multi-Use Trail Bridge over Schuylkill River project for work performed 1-1-17 thru 1-31-17 INVOICE #35
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 28,983.81	East Church Road Bridge Replacement over SEPTA for work performed 12-1-16 thru 1-31-17 INVOICE#36
Boles, Smyth Assoc.	\$ 2,695.69	Relocation of North Gulph Road (SR 3039) for work performed 1-1-17 thru 1-31-16 INVOICE #38
Rudolph Clarke, LLC Suite 200 Seven Neshaminy Interplex Trevose, PA 19053	\$ 567.00	Professional Services re: NPS 1-17-17 to 1-31-17 INVOICE #61780
Rudolph Clarke, LLC Suite 200	\$ 1,134.00	Professional Services General representation

Seven Neshaminy Interplex Trevose, PA 19053		1-4-17 thru 1-26-17 INVOICE #61781
Upper Merion Twp.	\$ 18,449.41	Expenses incurred & Advanced by the Twp. General Fund for 2016 Expenses for the Transportation Authority
	\$	
TOTAL:	\$66,426.88	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Stuart, all voting "Aye" to approve the March 8, 2017 requisitions in the amount of \$66,426.88. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Mr. Kohler reminded Authority members to submit their Statement of Interest form which is required by the Pennsylvania State Ethics Commission to the Administrative Office as soon as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THOMAS KOHLER
CHAIRMAN

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: