

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
December 12, 2012

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for a meeting on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 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, Chairman
Louis Zotti, Vice-Chairman
Marvin Meneeley, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Tad Hershey, Treasurer
Greg Waks, Supervisor Liaison
Ron Wagenmann, Township Manager
Dave Kraynik, Township Manager Designee
Edward J. O'Brien, Director of Public Works
Jack Smyth, Jr., P.E., Consulting Engineers, Boles Smyth Associates, Inc., (BSA)
Christina Greene, Pizonka, Reilley, Bello & McGrory, P.C
Nicholas Hiriak, Director of Finance
Rita Ann Pfeiffer, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Carl Pinto, Secretary

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Hershey, all voting "aye" to approve the meeting minutes of November 14, 2012 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Glasgow estimate to perform additional work at the Henderson & Saulin sinkhole area

Mr. Smyth discussed the estimate for Glasgow to perform additional work that is optional, but recommended. He described the small depression area by Henderson and Saulin Road where the major sinkhole opened up and closed the road recently during Super Storm Sandy. One of the reasons it happened was the drainage comes out of the Henderson Road pipe and across a small, approximately 15-foot long swale over land that then goes into an opening at the bottom of an existing manhole. In the swale area between the pipe outlet and the manhole, water was diverting into the area where the sinkhole developed.

With regard to the responsibility for payment of the sinkhole repair, Mr. Smyth indicated PennDOT had stated if the Authority fixed the small sinkhole back in August just north of Norfolk Southern, they would take responsibility for any future sinkholes in the state right-of-way. The new sinkhole occurred within the PennDOT right-of-way. A quote was received yesterday from Glasgow for the force account work for the major sinkhole and the secondary sinkhole that opened, and it is in the neighborhood of approximately \$35,000. Mr. Wagenmann pointed out it is hoped to receive reimbursement for the \$35,000.

This estimate for the Authority's action is for work to extend the pipe from the Henderson Road inlet into the storm manhole at Lackland Self Storage, fill in the depression area, and modify the existing manhole with a slotted top so that the overland flow can go into the top. This will allow roadway drainage to go directly into the manhole and reduce the risk of future sinkholes. Therefore, purpose of the work, estimated to cost \$11, 240, is to stop drainage from leaving the endwall and flowing overland into the bottom of the existing manhole. It is this area of overland flow that is posing a potential risk to future sinkhole activity.

A discussion ensued about the need and importance of preventing future sinkholes in this area where the sanitary sewer is located. Also discussed was the possibility of putting a monetary cap on the overall cost of the work.

Mr. Wagenmann suggested making a motion to approve the cost estimate for the additional work to extend the pipe as prepared and if additional work was required in the opinion of BSA, they would then be authorized to approve the additional work up to a total of \$15,000 for the entire additional work.

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Hershey, seconded by Mr. Zotti, all voting "Aye" to approve the \$11,420.64 to complete Revision 15 – Drainage Adjustments with the contingency that, if in the opinion of BSA, a change order is needed, then BSA is authorized to approve the change order for a maximum of \$15,000 for the entire project (which includes the aforementioned \$11,420.64). None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

PA Turnpike/Flint Hill Road Easy Pass Interchange – Initial Evaluation

Mr. Smyth stated the Upper Merion Transportation Authority and the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission are exploring the viability of a new "EZ Pass" interchange at Flint Hill Road located between the current Norristown Interchange #25 in Plymouth Township and the Valley Forge Interchange #24 with the Schuylkill Expressway in Upper Merion Township. A draft letter was transmitted at the last meeting to elicit comments from the Authority. Mr. Kraynik stated the draft is consistent with the meeting held with Turnpike representatives. Mr. Smyth will prepare a formal Technical Memo showing the design and transmit it to the Authority with recommendations.

Mr. Waks stated ultimately there needs to be a conversation with the residents who live in that area, possibly even going down into Swedeland.

Update on NPS Plans to install a Trail Crossing on PA 23 with a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at the Intersection of PA 23 and Trooper Road (PA 3051)

Mr. Smyth stated the National Park Service at Valley Forge has started the Highway Occupancy Permit to extend the Multi-Use Trail that is being constructed over the Schuylkill River and take it past Station Lane at the Kennedy Supplee Mansion. The proposed 14-foot wide trail would tie directly into SR 0023 with a crosswalk to take pedestrians over to County Line Road. The Park representatives expressed the desire that people use County Line Road and the Visitor Center Parking Lot for access to the trail. One of the elements of the Highway Occupancy permit is the recommendation to put in the Rapid Flashing Beacon pedestrian lights on either side of the crosswalk instead of a full signal since it is not known at this time if a full signal would be warranted. It is anticipated there will be quite a few people who will need to use this crosswalk once the bridge

is open. The Rapid Flashing Beacon is a good way to alert approaching drivers that there is a crosswalk. The National Park Service received a \$250,000 grant to construct all of this and one of the questions that has arisen is whether or not the township would be open to providing maintenance.

Mr. Wagenmann stated this will come back to the Board of Supervisors as with all traffic signals and funded out of the General Fund. He said if this becomes a busy bicycle and pedestrian trail and a light is needed, the township will have responsibility as it does for all the signals on the roadway now.

The Park has already agreed to own and maintain the trail and the bridges over the Schuylkill River and the Norfolk Southern Railroad.

Mr. Smyth noted the flashing beacon may be a permanent condition; however, the relocated North Gulph Road comes through here and the idea is to place the beacon so that it would not have to be moved in the future. However, there is a chance it is a temporary condition and would get reanalyzed when opened and during the relocated North Gulph Road final design.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

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

Moving ahead with environmental clearances and anticipating going out to bid in the spring for the bicycle trail.

River Crossing Project

Design is proceeding.

Trooper Road Interchange

Going to bid next year.

Relocated North Gulph Road

Refining Right-Sizing options.

Henderson Road Widening

Making good, steady progress. Once the widening is done and the binder pavement is in place, the actual finished wearing surface and final lane markings will be completed in the spring. Verizon is the critical path for utility relocations. Traffic signal poles are due in next week and the signal work will be completed after the holidays.

Church Road Bridge Over SEPTA Route 100 Line

Type, Size and Location plans are ready to be submitted to PennDOT and once approved the borings can proceed.

Norristown High Speed Line

Mr. Kraynik stated SEPTA Steering Committees have been in place for about two months and representatives will provide an update on the Norristown High Speed Line at the Board of Supervisors Workshop scheduled for January 17th. Public meetings will follow in order to obtain public input about various places to extend a line from Norristown into King of Prussia, most likely some point at the mall and on First Avenue at the Business Park.

A question was asked about the train structure and whether there will be more than one car. Mr. Wagenmann responded they can add multiple cars as needed. Mr. Kraynik noted it would be designed and built with the ability to have adequate capacity.

Other Township Projects

Mr. Wagenmann provided an update of other township projects such as the Target and Chick-fil-A and Wawa where a partial signal will first be installed. If justified by future warrants, it could go to a full signal and then the money escrowed would be there to upgrade to a full signal. As part of these projects the signals on Henderson Road at Monroe & Saulin Boulevard will receive some modifications as well as the signal at Prince Frederick.

Mr. Wagenmann also updated the Authority on the meeting held with the Solicitor, BSA, Steve Shreiner and his lawyer related to his property's sewer lateral. Mr. Shreiner was asked to detail his issues in a letter to the Authority for consideration.

Mr. Waks asked if there is any information on the Road Diet. Mr. Wagenmann responded the Business Improvement District (BID) is doing a study funded by a grant they received and when finished the BID will come back to the township with a proposal.

Allendale Road Bridge

Temporary construction easements are necessary for the Allendale Road Bridge maintenance project and a meeting has been held with the two property owners (King of Prussia Mall and Wilner Properties). An additional meeting will be held to answer some of their questions. Mr. Wagenmann provided details on the detours that will be in place during the 3-4 month construction work. The township is pursuing an Infrastructure Bank Loan from PennDOT.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Nick Hiriak, Director of Finance, presented the financial report for November as well as budget activity. He highlighted some traffic assessment fees and the casino's first payment of four installments amounting to about \$153,000. Mr. Hiriak also detailed the budget adjustments for adoption at this meeting. He noted that there is about \$817,000 left in the \$3.5 million PIB loan after approval of tonight's requisitions

REQUISITIONS – DECEMBER 2012

Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 4,885.58	East Church Road Bridge Replacement Over SEPTA Final Design for work June 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012, Inv. #6
Boles, Smyth Assoc., Inc.	\$ 21,107.84	Multi-Use Trail Bridge Over the Schuylkill River Project, Final Design for Work performed for October 1, 2012 through October 31, 2012
Metz Engineers	\$ 21,263.50	South Henderson Road Widening, 10/01/12 to 10/28/12, Project M7519 Invoice dated 11/12/12
Glasgow, Inc.	\$ 558,269.52	Henderson Road Widening Job No. 212667, Inv. #5, dated 12/1/12
Times Herald	\$ 357.58	Notice of Public Hearing Impact Fee Advisory Committee Land Use Assumptions Report, Invoice

		#:00221321, dated 11/08/12
Pizonka, Reilly	\$ 769.50	Professional Services 11-9-12 thru 11-21-12, Invoice #30227. Dated 12/11/12
TOTAL:	\$606,653.52	

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Hershey, all voting "Aye" to approve the December requisitions in the amount of \$606,653.52. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADOPTION OF BUDGET:

Authority Action:

It was moved by Mr. Hershey, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting "Aye" to approve the budget as adjusted. None opposed. Motion approved 4-0.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

Farewell Wishes for Mr. Wagenmann

Various members of the group expressed appreciation to Mr. Wagenmann for his many years of service to Upper Merion Township and what has been accomplished through the many Transportation Authority projects.

ADJOURNMENT

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

DAVID G. KRAYNIK
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

MICHAEL SANTILLO
CHAIRPERSON

Minutes Approved:
Minutes Entered: