

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
October 12, 2022 Meeting – 7:00PM

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE:

Andrew Bahmueller, Chair
Marvin Meneeley
Lou Zotti, Secretary/Treasurer
Andrew Kang
Greg Philips, Supervisor Liaison
Noah Marlier, Solicitor, Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell, & Lupin, PC
Jack Smyth, Engineer, Boles, Smyth Associates, Inc.
Geoff Hickman, Director of Public Works
Nick Hiriak, Director of Finance
Rob Erickson, Resident of Hughes Park

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Erickson noted that he would pose his questions and comments regarding the East Church Road Bridge Project later in the meeting.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

The meeting minutes from September 14, 2022 shall be presented to the Authority at their next meeting for review and approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. East Church Road Bridge Project – Road-Con Inc. Contract Extension Request: The Contractor submitted a request for a contract time extension for the Authority's consideration, which was necessitated by the damages from Aqua PA's Pickering East and West water treatment plants. These emergency repairs significantly delayed Aqua from performing the utility relocation work activities under this project—negatively impacting the project's critical path. **Mr. Zotti made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, to grant the contract time extension request subject to the Project Engineer's approval of the Contractor's extension justification. The motion carried 3-0, with Mr. Kang abstaining.**

B. East Church Road Bridge Project – Traffic Planning & Design, Inc. (TPD) Contract Extension Request: The Inspector submitted a request for a contract time extension for the Authority's consideration, applying the same rationale aforementioned. **Mr. Meneeley made a motion, seconded by Mr. Zotti, to grant the contract time extension request subject to the Project Engineer's approval of the Contractor's extension justification. The motion carried 4-0, all members voting "Aye."**

C. Resolution No. 2022-2 – Amendment to the General Reimbursement Agreement with PennDOT for the North Gulph Road Project: Mr. Smyth presented an amendment previously approved by the Authority, which will increase the terms of the reimbursement in the final design phase. The Authority previously issued a letter approving the terms, but PennDOT requested that the Authority execute a supplement to the existing agreement rather than rely upon the letter. **Mr. Zotti made a motion, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, to grant**

the contract time extension request subject to the Project Engineer's approval of the Contractor's extension justification. The motion carried 4-0, all members voting "Aye."

D. Prince Frederick Boulevard Design Services: Mr. Smyth presented a cost proposal of approximately \$140,000 for the design of the last 800' segment of the boulevard, which would prepare the project for submitting PennDOT permit and NPDES permit applications. The Authority discussed the merits of proceeding with the design, the potential for a developer to design and construct this segment, the possibility for Township funding/involvement, and whether the current financial status of the Authority would permit it to fund this design. Mr. Philips noted the cost proposal could be structured in discrete phases that could be funded incrementally. Mr. Bahmueller proposed that Mr. Smyth review Mr. Philips suggestion and recommended that the Authority take this matter up for consideration at their next meeting when all members would be present for the discussion.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Due to a MCATO conference, Mr. Hamaday could not attend the Authority Meeting. Mr. Hickman noted that there are currently no new land development applications that are projected to generate a traffic impact fee.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Smyth reported that the utility relocation discussions for the Relocated North Gulph Road Project (SR 0023 Section 2NG) are progressing. During the weekend of October 15-16, 2022, the Contractor shall set the beams for the East Church Road Bridge Project, which imposes a shutdown of SEPTA's rail service. SEPTA will provide bus service during the outage to maintain its operations between Upper Merion Township and Norristown. For the ACT 209 Study, Mr. Smyth noted that Pennoni will complete the traffic counts by the end of October, at which time the advisory committee should be established to review the Land Use Assumptions Report and the Roadway Sufficiency Analysis. Additional details for all projects can be found in the Engineer's Report provided to the Authority.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Marlier had nothing significant to report.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT:

Mr. Hickman informed the Authority of Aqua PA's upcoming water main replacement project on King of Prussia Road. The project will extend from Croton Road to Upper Gulph Road and will last from 10/17/2022 to 03/31/2023. This segment of King of Prussia Road will be closed from 9:00AM to 3:00PM, Monday through Friday, until the project is complete.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Hiriak supplied the current fund balances to the Authority and noted that the 2023 proposed budget will be presented to the Authority for its November meeting.

REQUISITION APPROVALS:

Mr. Zotti made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kang, to approve the October 12, 2022 requisitions in the amount of \$568,782.33. The motion carried 4-0, all members voting "Aye."

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Erickson inquired about whether the contract extension for the East Church Road Bridge project means that the bridge will not open to traffic until the summer of 2023. Mr. Smyth replied that the project is aiming

to have the bridge passable by the end of 2022, with final paving, plantings, site restoration, etc. being completed in the spring of 2023. Mr. Erickson then informed the Authority about an increase in tractor-trailers and speeding on the detour route. Mr. Hickman confirmed he would pass this information along to the Chief of Police.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Authority, on a motion by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Zotti, the Authority unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.


Andrew Bahmueller, Chair