

DAUPHIN COUNTY GAMING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Dauphin County Administration Building, 2nd Floor
Wednesday, December 10, 2008
4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Members Present

George Groves, Chairman
Justin Warren, Vice Chairman
David Craig, Secretary
Lloyd Umberger
Jim Szymborski

Also present were Paul Clark, Chairman, Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority (IDA); G. Edward Schweikert, Wolf Block; Michael Musser, Community Networking Resources; Dave La Torre, La Torre Communications; George Connor, Dauphin County, and Amy Richards, Dauphin County.

Call to Order

Mr. Groves called the hearing to order at 4:06 p.m.

Derry Township: S.R. 743 Relocation Project

Mike Pries, Chairman, Derry Township Board of Supervisors and Brian Emberg, Herbert Rowland & Grubic (HRG), presented Derry Township's grant request for transportation improvements on S. R. 743.

According to Mr. Pries, the economic vitality of the Commonwealth and the tourism industry is directly tied to the condition of its infrastructure. Derry Township, the home of Hershey Entertainment & Resorts (HE & R), continues to experience population growth with tourists, residents and substantial workforce. The impact of traffic congestion and the potential safety hazards is evident. To better serve residents and tourists, updates to the regional transportation system are required to provide much-needed public safety improvements for motorists, cyclists, pedestrians and public transportation users. The State Route 743 Relocation Project is a regional transportation project that provides connectivity among multiple modes of transportation.

Derry Township is requesting to 5 percent of the total project cost of \$11,197,604 as the last installment of funding required to complete the realignment of S.R. 743. Construction is expected to begin in the fall of 2009. Derry Township is requesting \$525,000 from Dauphin County to fund the necessary utilities associated with the realignment.

In addition to improving motorist access to Hollywood Casino from points south and east of Hershey, this project is an integral component of Hershey's downtown revitalization efforts. The project is one part of an extensive capital improvements plan envisioned by Derry Township, and

will enhance pedestrian and traffic safety, relieve congestion, and help create an aesthetic environment that will invite tourists to visit downtown Hershey.

The project involves relocation of S.R. 743 to the east to align with Cocoa Avenue. This proposed realignment will create one signalized four-way intersection. In addition, a new bridge will be constructed over the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks. The new bridge structure is needed to address one of Dauphin County's most severe structurally deficient bridges. The bridge was rated 22.7 on a 0 – 100 and cited in PennDOT's list of structurally deficient bridges.

Travelers from Interstate 283 to HersheyPark, ZooAmerica, the Giant Center, the Outlet Shoppes of Hershey, and the new Hollywood Casino in East Hanover Township all utilize S.R. 743 and are impacted directly. The bridge and S.R. 743 are also primary routes for the only entrance and exit of supplies and finished products to and from Chocolate Factory.

The project has community support from the Harrisburg Area Transportation Study (HATS), the Hershey Company, Capital Area Transit and the Derry Township Municipal Authority.

During the question and answer session, Mr. Emberg indicated that Derry Township is expected to pay 100 percent of the relocation costs. If the project is not awarded a local share grant, Mr. Pries said the Township will pursue federal funding. Derry Township provided about \$388,000 in matching funds. Hershey Trust and the Hershey Company have also contributed funding.

Derry Township and Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center: Improving Emergency Care Outcomes

Dr. Thomas Terndrup, Chair of Emergency Medicine; John Moyer, Project Manager, Administrative Director of the Simulation Center; Dr. Elizabeth Sinz, Professor of Anesthesiology and Neurosurgery, Medical Director of the Simulation Center; and Dr. Bosseau Murray, Professor of Anesthesiology, Associate Director of the Simulation Center, Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center presented the Medical Center's grant application.

Derry Township co-sponsored the grant application.

The project is a community initiative of Hershey Medical Center to provide national leadership in reducing the unacceptable level of medical errors inherent in the delivery of emergency care, specifically the emergency care and services network of Dauphin County. This high priority project has the full support of the senior administrative and medical leadership of the Medical Center and the Dauphin Count Emergency Management Agency, and will result in the highest possible levels of quality and patient of emergency care for the residents of Dauphin County.

The most deadly and common illness that emergency care providers routinely encounter are stroke, trauma, cardiopulmonary arrest and heart attacks. The extended and complicated patient path, the lack of standardized and routine training, increasingly technical emergency procedures, and the multiple hand-offs, all are recognized sources of medical errors in emergency services, many of them involving communication and team performance. A landmark government study across all hospital estimated that 98,000 deaths occur annually from preventable errors. Of

these, 65 percent are primarily the result of poor communication and teamwork, and over half are specifically due to errors in patient hands-off from one provider or department to another.

These national figures are reflected in our experience in Dauphin County. The Hershey Medical Center, a Level I Trauma Center, evaluates over 50,000 people per year and admits 27,000 inpatients, and therefore, is a front line observer to thousands of emergency cases each year. Approximately on third of the emergency cases have serious errors occur during the rapidly delivered emergency care. Typically, these errors occur in the domains of communication, procedures, policies, or hand off coordination. Considering that there were more than 260,000 emergency 911 calls last year in Dauphin County, a safer emergency system will benefit a broad, diverse population.

The Hershey Medical Center will implement medical simulation techniques to permit realistic physical modeling of the chain of events in emergency care, with an ability to focus on specific problem areas. Through the project, EMS personnel and emergency care teams in the hospital can practice together on emergency procedures, communication, system interface, and hand-offs without putting a single patient at risk.

With this project, Hershey Medical Center expects to significantly improve survivability of non-hospital cardiac arrests in targeted communities of Dauphin County; reduce medical errors by emergency care providers in Dauphin County; significantly improve patient safety and emergency care performance of Dauphin County EMS providers and Emergency Care related clinical departments in the hospital; a safer health environment for the Hollywood Casino, leverage crisis team training benefits to all county pre-hospital providers and EMS; expand the Simulation Emergency Services Training Model to Emergency Services and hospital providers in Dauphin, Lebanon and Lancaster Counties; and continuing high levels of patient safety throughout the county by making teamwork training a common, effective practice throughout career of all healthcare providers.

Hershey Medical Center has already invested nearly \$10.5 million to date in terms of faculty development and recruitment, curriculum design, technology, and infrastructure. An additional \$8.1 million is committed this year for an expansion of the simulation center to increase its capacity and outreach.

Personnel represents 53 percent of total costs in Year I and 66 percent in Year II. This tracks very closely with fully costed health care projects in general. The plan is to automate the simulations training process to reduce personnel resources.

High fidelity training mannequins are available for costs up to \$250,000. The project has identified patient simulators for \$45,000 that will demonstrate the principles of evidence based emergency care. Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) will be purchased for \$1,200. Total two-year project cost is \$1,530,172.00.

The medical directors - Dr. Elizabeth Sinz, W. Bosseau Murray, and Dr. Thomas Terndrup – will ensure the overall plan for implementation is successful.

Derry Township co-sponsored the application with Hershey Medical Center. In a letter dated August 28, 2008, Derry Township named the S. R. 743 project the first priority of the township.

During the question and answer period, Dr. Terndrup said the Hershey Medical Center will continue to pursue the project as part of the hospital's mission. Simulation is already being performed at the Medical Center; however, limited funds are available for additional training and equipment. Without the local share grant, financing the project would be unlikely, according to Dr. Terndrup.

South Hanover Township: Land Acquisition for Municipal Government Complex

Rose Kays, Grant Writer; Robert Cassel, Chairman, Board of Supervisors; Dan Collins and Richard Cassel, Supervisors; Art Heilman, Steve Mizak, Dennis Palmer, Parks and Recreation, South Hanover Township presented four projects for consideration.

*It should be noted that South Hanover Township presented their projects in order of priority.

South Hanover Township is requesting a total of \$407,976.00 for a new municipal government complex. The first step of the endeavor was to purchase land on which to build. On May 20, 2008, South Hanover Township entered into an agreement with the South Hanover Township Sewer Authority to lease back a 12-acre tract of land purchased from the Hershey Trust Company. The property is located off of Route 39/Hershey Road. By the agreement, the Township is solely responsible for the annual payments. This agreement is for six years. At the end of the agreement, South Hanover will refinance the loan and pay the remaining balance due to the Hershey Trust Company in full.

Presently, South Hanover Township operates out of a building located at 111 West Third Street in the Village of Union Deposit. The building was constructed in 1969 and is in need of improvements, such as storage space, increased accessibility, and improved energy efficiency.

The site was chose because it will afford the governing body the ability to consolidate services into one area. The new complex will provide them the opportunity to build a facility that meets a number of goals outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. It should also be noted that the land is located in an area easily accessible to the general public.

The building would accommodate an upgraded Highway Department and garages, the Union Deposit Volunteer Fire Company, adequate office space and the Parks and Recreation Department. Additionally, the new complex would provide a sizable meeting room which could be used for public meetings.

No re-zoning or variances will be required.

The population of South Hanover Township has increased and it is believed to continue increasing as new employees of the casino settle in the Township. In the event of an emergency at the casino, the Union Deposit Volunteer Fire Company will be one of the first to respond. The

projected new location for the Fire Company in the municipal complex is only minutes from Hollywood Casino.

During the question and answer session, Mr. Robert Cassel pointed out that the new municipal complex would be located along Route 39, a main route to the casino, while the current facility is at 111 West 3rd Street. Mr. Cassel plans to develop a “green” facility. The request is strictly a land acquisition request. If a new facility is constructed, the current one may be used for storage. The project is slated to begin in 2009.

South Hanover Township: Shetland Reconstruction

South Hanover Township has recently given approval for a critical safety road improvement project to be sent out for bids. Reconstruction of a portion of Shetland Drive between Hanshue Road and Canal Street is being done to eliminate a hazardous traffic and safety condition. The roadway is being widened to accommodate a higher volume of traffic and to make it safer for our school buses to travel on. As part of the project the north bank of Shetland Drive must be re-graded. It is expected that approximately 4,500 cubic yards of bulk excavation will be done in order to complete the necessary improvements. Additional right-of-way will be purchased from an adjacent property owner. The project will include resurfacing 500 feet of roadway. Lane width will be expanded, and 650 feet of guide rail will be installed along the south side of Shetland Drive. Storm water management improvements will also be completed.

Since Shetland Drive intersects Route 39 and continues to Canal Street this road experiences a high traffic flow because it is often used by travelers as a way of avoiding the heavy traffic along Route 39/Hershey Park Drive. Residents of the Township are likely to use Shetland Drive rather than drive to Laudermilch Road. Since Shetland Drive is in the vicinity of Route 81, it can be used as an evacuation route in the event of an emergency at Hollywood Casino.

The total grant request for the project is \$323,000.000. The construction will be paid for through Township funds, and local share grant funds, if approved.

According to Mr. Cassel, the bids are already out for the reconstruction project. South Hanover Township will pay up to 50 percent of the project costs.

South Hanover Township: Parks

South Hanover Township is requesting \$250,000 for extensive completion and improvement of existing township parks at Greenbriar Park, Meadows Park and Keller Field.

The Township currently has seven parks available for recreational use: Keller Field, Swatara Creek Park, Meadows Park, Greenbriar Park, Greenbriar Meadows Park, Little Meadow Park and Southern Meadows. The largest of the parks – Keller Field and Swatara Creek Park – are highly subject to flooding from the Swatara Creek. Swatara Creek Park flooded annually in recent years and Keller Field has flooded twice recently. Each time the parks flood, equipment is lost and damage done to sanitary facilities and playing fields making the unusable for a period of time. Greenbriar Park is the oldest park and will receive priority.

Athletic playing fields in Township parks principally used by three youth sports organizations – the South Hanover Baseball and Softball Association, the Lower Dauphin Soccer Association and the South Hanover Youth Football Association. All three organizations utilize these athletic fields for league games, and in the case of the Soccer Association, intramural games within the association.

The South Hanover Township Parks and Recreation Board requests this grant to be able to make necessary improvements and upgrades to its parks and its facilities. South Hanover Township Parks and Recreation has contributed \$37,000 toward improvements. Parks and Recreation had discussions with Hummelstown to coordinate efforts; however, the Borough did not have sufficient funds to contribute to the project.

The Township Park and Recreation Board has attempted to make these necessary improvements and is fully supportive of this grant request.

Due to the proximity to the casino, it is believed that many new employees will continue to settle in South Hanover and therefore increase the demand for services, including use of public parks.

Some of the planned improvements include bathrooms, paving, batting cages and additional parking.

Middle Paxton Township: Shared Municipal Services Building

Thomas Van Wagner, Township Supervisor; Julie Seeds, Zoning Officer; Colleen Terry, Middle Paxton Township presented the application for a new Dauphin Borough/ Middle Paxton Fire Company Fire Company in addition to a Middle Paxton Township municipal services office. Dauphin Borough was a co-applicant.

Middle Paxton Township is requesting a total of \$1,750,000 to be utilized for design and construction of a shared municipal services facility. This is a two-phased, multi-year grant request to align with the Township's goals and construction schedule.

The shared facility, originally built in 1920, will house the relocated operations of the Dauphin/Middle Paxton Fire Company, as well as the Middle Paxton Township municipal services office. It will replace the space currently leased by the Fire Company, Taylor Hall, located on Erie Street in the Borough of Dauphin. It will house the relocated operations of Middle Paxton Township, combining Township functions and staff currently located in its Overlook Street and Elizabeth Avenue buildings.

The Township will own the new shared municipal services facility, and has executed the purchase of three land parcels on which it intends to construct the building, and demolished existing structures to prepare for land development and construction. To date Middle Paxton Township has extended and/or pledged matching funds of \$815,440, or more than 31 percent. Total project costs are estimated at \$2,598,440. Total grant request for Phase I of the project for

design, engineering and site preparation costs \$250,000. For the subsequent year, Middle Paxton Township is requesting \$1,250,000 for the construction phase.

The use of this new facility will be directly related to providing municipal, fire and rescue services to support additional needs generated by the gaming facility located in East Hanover Township, as well as provide for anticipated municipal growth.

During the question and answer period, Mr. Van Wagner indicated that Middle Paxton Township will match 31 percent for land acquisition and will look for other funding sources. The Township plans to get bids on the project in the spring or summer of 2009.

Rush Township: New Township Municipal Building

John Kasputis, Chairman, Rush Township Board of Supervisors presented the application for a new municipal building.

Currently, Rush Township uses a building originally constructed as a one room school house in 1860 as its municipal building. The building does not have plumbing or restroom facilities, space for township vehicles and equipment, or space for files and records. In addition to serving as the municipal building, the facility is also the voting site and emergency management center for the township.

The expected outcome is to consolidate township vehicles and equipment and records at one location; provide updated and sanitary facilities for township meetings, voting and emergency management center functions; provide office space for township secretary and supervisors; provide meeting space for community organizations, such as senior citizens, youth programs and council or government.

The project is supported by all township supervisors and other elected officials as well as a majority of township residents. Also, the project is supported by state Rep. Sue Helm and Senator Michael Folmer.

The anticipated start date for this project is June 1, 2009 with a completion date of October 31, 2009.

The total grant request is \$150,000. The project would include a building with two bays for vehicles and equipment, meeting room and one restroom; paved 100 ft. access road and parking spaces for six vehicles; well and septic system; costs for this project are based on preliminary meetings with a general contractor and civil engineers; anticipated sources of funding include the uniform local share municipal grant, state and federal grants.

Rush Township is partnering with Halifax Borough and the townships of Halifax, Jefferson and Wayne to form The Valleys Regional Comprehensive Plan which will comprise about 20 percent of the land in Dauphin County.

During the question and answer period, Mr. Kasputis suggested that Rush Township may contribute a small local share of \$10,000 to the project, although the Township budget is \$43,000. The plan has been approved by the Township and is ready to proceed.

Londonderry Township: Transportation improvements on Geyer's Church Road

Steve Letavic, Manager; Daryl LeHew, Chairman, Londonderry Township Supervisors; Andrew Kenworthy, Township Engineer, HRG presented the application for transportation improvements on Geyer's Church Road.

Dauphin County served as a sponsor for the application.

Londonderry Township contains two arterial roadways, the Pennsylvania Turnpike and Interstate 283 and two minor arterials, U.S. Routes 230 and 441. Geyers Church Road serves as a primary connector road that links several arterial roads and is one of the few existing roads within Londonderry Township that traverses the municipality in a north and south direction. Geyers Church Road is designated as a Township Collector Road that requires widening, resurfacing and storm drain system upgrades to conform to the latest roadway standards and anticipated traffic volumes. The daily use of the road serves the local community as a primary transportation corridor that collects traffic from local streets and residential neighborhoods and channels them to a variety of municipal, social, economic and recreational destinations within Londonderry Township and other county destinations. The proposed phase of improvements begins at the intersection of Alwine Road and extends north to end at the intersection of Rout 230, East Harrisburg Pike, which is approximately 0.54 miles in length.

The improvements to Geyers Church Road will further enhance the community's quality of life to sustain economic and social objectives and allow safe and viable access to many of the community's resources to the local residents, general public and visitors of the county.

The total grant request is for \$650,000.00. The Township will provide matching funds in the amount of \$100,000 in addition to in-kind services in order to offset the cost of the total award amount for completion of the project. The Township will also assume all financial responsibilities related to the planning, engineering, public bid advertisement and process and any related administrative duties throughout the duration and completion of the project.

Hummelstown Borough: Shope Field Park Improvement Program

Brad Miller, Mayor; Jerry Kling, President, Borough Council; Michael O'Keefe, Manager of Hummelstown Borough presented the application for the Shope Field Park Improvement Program.

Dauphin County served as a sponsor of the grant application.

Shope Field is a publicly owned recreation facility located on W. Main Street, adjacent to Swatara Creek in Hummelstown.

The Shope Field/Park Improvement Project consists of several components, which include: 1) the purchase and razing of a vacant blighted property at 889 W. Main St., located adjacent to Shope Field/Park owned by the Borough; 2) construction of a parking area on the same site to increase total parking available. The proposed parking area may be used for other purposes including a possible park and ride lot for public transportation. Total project costs are estimated to be \$221,800. The project is expected to be completed in August 2009. The total grant request is \$200,000.

During the question and answer period, Mr. O'Keefe suggested that public works could provide assistance with park improvements. If the project was not awarded a local share municipal grant, it may delay the Shope Field Park Improvement plan.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.