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To: Honorable Members of the Bethlehem Township Board of Commissioners
Doug Bruce, Township Manager
From: Amanda L. Raudenbush, AICP, CFM, Planning Director
Date: August 15, 2019
Re: August 19, 2019 Board of Commissioners Meeting Report

Departmental Activities

- Continue implementation of planning software
- Staff participated in L-273 Floodplain Management Course
- Staff took and passed the certification exam to become a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM)

Pre-Application Meeting

No Pre-Application Meetings were held with Township Staff this month.

Board of Commissioners New Business

- **Bethlehem Plaza Entrance Modifications** – The owner of Bethlehem Plaza is proposing to extend the length of the right turn lane of the existing driveway at Linden Street. Part of the PennDOT process includes Township sign-off on the mylar plans. This improvement does not permit any additional traffic.

Board of Commissioners Old Business

- **Long Range Transportation Plan** – The draft of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* was released on Friday, August 9. In addition to providing a vision and guide for how the Lehigh Valley grows as a region, *FutureLV* links that vision to transportation planning and investment by incorporating the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP is step one in the federal infrastructure planning, management and funding process. The LRTP is required to be fiscally constrained; meaning the total budget of the regionally significant project list cannot

exceed the anticipated budget. Those projects that are recognized as necessary but are not within the budget of the LRTP are listed as unmet needs or unfunded projects.

In general, being listed in the plan, whether as a regionally significant project or as an unmet need, is all a project needs to move to the next step in the process. Eight of the nine projects that Bethlehem Township submitted are listed as either regionally significant or an unmet need. Again, the LRTP sets the goals, policies and actions for transportation for the next 25 years per federal requirements. It is a plan, not a funding program. Funding decisions are made during the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) process. The TIP process occurs every two years, with the next update beginning in 2020.

The plan as introduced is a draft, and is open for public comment through September 23. The public comment period is an opportunity to provide feedback on all parts of the plan, including details on the projects list. Additionally, staff has been invited to give a 5 minute presentation on submitted projects to the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study (LVTS).

<u>Project</u>	<u>Listed</u>
BTVFC Emergency Signal	2031-2045 Long-Range
Butztown By-Pass Study	Unfunded Projects
Freemansburg Willow Park Study	Unfunded Projects
Pedestrian Crossing - Hecktown Road	2031-2045 Long-Range
Pedestrian Crossing - Oakland Road	2031-2045 Long-Range
Route 191 Corridor Study	Unfunded Projects
William Penn Highway - Diverging Diamond	Not Listed
Farmersville - Freemansburg Intersection	Unfunded Projects
Keystone Street Bridge	Unfunded Projects

Other Projects (previously listed or submitted by other agencies)

- State Route 22
- US 22 - Farmersville to State Route 512 Highway Resurface
- Easton Avenue Corridor Improvements
- Bethlehem Corridor Safety Railroad Warning Devices
- Farmersville Road Bridge over US 22
- State Route 2027 Hecktown Road Bridge
- Country Club Road over US 22 Bridge

A more detailed matrix is attached for your reference. Again, this list is a draft plan. The numbers shown are estimates based on a 3% inflation rate from 2019 until the anticipated year the project may receive funding.

Current Submissions for August 26, 2019 Planning Commission Meeting

- **Lehigh Valley Academy Charter School – Sketch Plan**
- **Notre Dame High School – Auditorium Addition – Sketch Plan**
- **Basile Oakland Street Subdivision – Preliminary/Final Subdivision Plan**
- **Hecktown Road Business Park Lots 6 & 7 – Final Plan**
- **River Hill Estates – Preliminary Subdivision Plan**

<u>Project</u>	<u>Proposal</u>	<u>LRTP</u>	<u>Un-Funded</u>	<u>Descriptions</u>	<u>Page</u>
BTVFC Emergency Signal	\$225,000	\$489,447		2031-2045 LRTP	149
Butztown By-Pass Study	\$75,000		\$355,962	Butztown Road to 5th Street, including the Butztown Road, Willow Park Road, Santee Road and Hecktown Road/5th Street intersections with Easton Avenue. Coordination of the realignment of Hecktown Road with 5th Street.	164
Freemansburg Willow Park Study	\$75,000		\$177,981	Project would review the challenges of the current intersection geometry and provide recommended solutions that the Township would work toward implementing with PennDOT	163
Pedestrian Crossing - Hecktown Road	\$125,000	\$222,476		2031-2045 LRTP - Provide curb, sidewalk and curb ramps at the northwest corner and add Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons and high-visibility crosswalk markings and Pedestrian Crossing signs.	154
Pedestrian Crossing - Oakland Road	\$125,000	\$222,476		2031-2045 LRTP - Provide a new concrete sidewalk and curb ramp at the northwest corner, update the curb ramp at the southwest corner and install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons at an existing pedestrian crossing.	154
Route 191 Corridor Study	\$75,000		\$355,962	City of Bethlehem to Lower Nazareth Township	160
William Penn Highway - Diverging Diamond	\$11,000,000				
Farmersville - Freemansburg Intersection	\$5,500,000		\$9,788,948	Align the north and south legs of Farmersville Road at Freemansburg Avenue to be directly across from each other, signalize intersection, and widen Freemansburg Avenue east.	162
Keystone Street Bridge			\$3,559,617	Over Nancy Run	158
State Route 22		\$5,150,000		Highway resurface/restoration from 25th Street to Farmersville Road, including William Penn Highway and State Route 33 interchanges.	140
US 22 - Farmersville to State Route 512 Highway Resurface		\$2,878,500		Resurface/restoration of State Route 22 from Farmersville Road to State Route 512, and State Route 191 and State Route 512 interchange ramps.	140
Easton Avenue Corridor Improvements		\$1,556,341		Corridor improvements to install new signal heads, adjust timings, add left turn standby lanes where appropriate and remove select trees along Easton Avenue from Stefko Boulevard to Willow Park Road	140
Bethlehem Corridor Safety Railroad Warning Devices		\$1,160,000		Replace antiquated equipment with one mast arm and cantilever where Brodhead Road, Township Line Road, Christian Springs Road, and Schoenersville Road cross Norfolk Southern track	141
Farmersville Road Bridge over US 22		\$3,957,193		Replacement/rehabilitation of State Route 2029 (Farmersville Road) Bridge over State Route 22	143
State Route 2027 Hecktown Road Bridge		\$2,567,215		Replacement/rehabilitation of State Route 2027 (Hecktown Road) Bridge over State Route 22	144
Country Club Road over US 22 Bridge		\$3,520,720		Replacement/rehabilitation of State Route 2031 (Country Club Road) Bridge over State Route 22	145