



Borough of Chambersburg

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAMBERSBURG & WILSON COLLEGE RECEIVE \$465,429 GRANT AWARD

Chambersburg – On September 9, 2014 the Borough of Chambersburg received notification that it has been awarded a Multimodal Transportation Fund (“MTF”) grant in the amount of \$465,429 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to support Wilson College’s Streetscape & Pedestrian Safety Initiative. The MTF request for funding was submitted as a collaborative public-private partnership between the Borough and Wilson College to perform a variety of pedestrian infrastructure and aesthetic upgrades in coordination with the College’s campus improvement plans.

Jeffrey Stonehill, Chambersburg Borough Manager, commented, “We are happy to partner with Wilson College and we are extremely thankful to Senator Rich Alloway and Rep. Rob Kauffman for their support of this request. We couldn't be happier with the outcome.” The MTF program is funded with revenues resulting from the newly enacted 2013 transportation bill – a bill that Senator Alloway was integral in having passed.”

“We are so pleased to play a part in advancing this project with Wilson College. The College is an important part of our community and culture, so partnering with them to fund and construct the improved pedestrian facilities was an easy decision to make,” remarked Council President Allen Coffman.

Wilson College and Borough staff worked with local economic development firm, GMS Funding Solutions (“GMS”), to develop the MTF application and pursue its approval. GMS’ Director of Economic Development said, “The Chambersburg staff and Wilson College’s President, Dr. Barbara Mistick, have developed an excellent project program together. Projects like these are rewarding to get behind, and we’re happy to have played a role.”

The Streetscape and Pedestrian Safety Initiative will include the replacement and upgrade of sidewalks, crosswalks, lighting, signage and landscaping along the portion of Main Street and Philadelphia Avenue that borders the College’s campus. “This grant represents real synergy between the Borough and the College,” said Mistick. “We greatly appreciate the support the Borough has provided to the College as we continue with campus improvements. Working collaboratively enhances the community safety of the Main Street pedestrian network along our campus. This type of dynamic partnership also serves as an exciting endorsement of the Wilson Today plan.” The project will repair existing curbs, replace sidewalks and install ADA-compliant curb ramps. The improvements are targeted at further promoting safety with enhanced vehicular visibility and substantial width for sound pedestrian crossing throughout the campus.

A final design has yet to be approved but will include items such as wayfinding, landscaping and fixtures, each intended to complement the historic integrity of the surrounding architecture. A dual-banner system will be affixed to street lights and the recently adopted Downtown Chambersburg parking-sign scheme will be extended to several locations along Main Street, safely demarking four vehicular ingress/egress campus access points. The Borough will involve the surrounding neighborhood in the final design process.

For information related to Wilson College, call Margaret Light, Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations, at (717) 262-2010, Ext. 3179 or margaret.light@wilson.edu

For more information related to the Chambersburg Borough, call Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager, at the Borough of Chambersburg, (717) 261-3245 or jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov