



Borough of Chambersburg

A full service municipality in Franklin County
celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service
over 120 years of community electric and a
regional wastewater, water, and municipal solid waste utility

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAMBERSBURG UPDATES MULTIMODAL INTEGRATION PROJECT

Chambersburg – On December 6, 2016, the Borough of Chambersburg received a notice of award of a \$500,000 multimodal transportation fund (MTF) grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA). The grant will be used to partially fund the Chambersburg Multimodal Integration Project, a multi-phased project aimed at improving alternative modes of transportation, circulation and safety throughout the Borough. State Senator Richard Alloway was instrumental in obtaining this important grant.

This is the second MTF grant the Borough has received from the CFA, an authority that oversees certain programs administered by the Department of Community and Economic Development. The first funded sidewalk and curb improvements along the Wilson College campus. This grant will be used to improve the downtown pedestrian network and streetscape, with improvements such as the installation walkways, signage and lighting. A portion of the grant is also expected to be used to complete the reconstruction Rhodes Drive, an emergency access road for the Borough’s first responders.

Unfortunately, the grant award was less than originally requested. The Borough requested \$720,000 from the MTF Program to support project costs and received a reward of only \$500,000. As such, the original plans for the project must be adjusted.

According to Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill, “many of the other components of the project, including other grants from the Franklin County Conservation District, the Chesapeake Bay Commission and a generous contribution from The Chambersburg Area Development Corporation are earmarked, can only be used for certain project components, may have hard deadlines for their use, and cannot be used to match other grant funding. However, the Borough was very lucky to receive all of these grants.”

According to Allen Coffman, Borough Council President, “it was quite a task to re-scope and re-budget this complex integrated project. Assistant Finance Director Rachel Krum and consultant Amy Kauffman from GMS Funding Solutions will have a huge job managing the finances of this project over the next few years.”

Here is the revised project scope and budget for your information:

\$282,884	ADA Curb Ramps in Second Ward	Community Development Block Grant*
\$31,300	Crosswalk Improvements Downtown	MTF Grant Funding
\$67,200	PennDOT Permits & Installation of Bicycle Sharrow Decals	MTF Grant Funding
\$115,000	Rhodes Drive Bio Retention Storm Water Project	Chesapeake Bay Commission Grant*
\$65,000	Rhodes Drive Sidewalk Walkway and Decorative Streetlights	MTF Grant Funding
\$126,000	Rhodes Drive Cartway, Curbs, Street Markings & Pavement	MTF Grant Funding
\$50,000	Rhodes Drive Soft Costs, Specifications, Design, Survey & Storm Sewer Inlets	Franklin County Conservation Grant*
\$210,500	Central Parking Lot Eligible MTF Expenses (Stormwater, Walkways, Lighting)	MTF Grant Funding
\$40,000	Central Parking Lot Eligible MTF Expenses (Stormwater, Walkways, Lighting)	Chambersburg Area Dev Corp Grant
	\$250,500 in Central Parking Lot Eligible MTF Expenses	
\$60,000	Central Parking Lot Ineligible Expenses (Paving, Curbs, Parking Meters)	Chambersburg Area Dev Corp Grant
	\$100,000 total contribution from the Chambersburg Area Dev Corp	
\$58,000	Central Parking Lot Adjacent Alley Paving	Borough Capital Paving Funds
\$1,105,884	TOTAL PROJECT (\$500,000 - MTF Grant Funding)	

* - Must be accomplished in 2017

** - In addition, the Borough expenses related to the Parking Fund, the Storm Sewer Fund, and the Electric Department, are not detailed herein

On Monday, January 9, 2016, Town Council met and reviewed this revised budget and was generally supportive of proceeding with this scope.

Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania’s only municipality supplying electric & gas. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater.

Chambersburg currently has 20,360 residents (2012). www.chambersburgpa.gov