

Borough of Chambersburg

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Borough of Chambersburg Receives \$500,000 Multimodal Grant

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.

Allen Coffman, Chambersburg Town Council president, commented, "We owe our success in large part to Senator Rich Alloway; he stepped up and fought very hard for us. He shared our vision and understood the project's merits."

At the December 6, 2016 CFA meeting, the Borough's project was among 90 that were awarded MTF grants statewide.

"We knew that the MTF program was going to be very competitive because there is such a tremendous need out there, so we're just happy to have been able assist the Borough during such a tough funding climate," remarked Amy Kaufman of GMS Funding Solutions, the Borough's grant consultant.

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, and emergency access road for the Borough's first responders.

Borough manager, Jeffrey Stonehill, said "This project will help us promote a more walkable community, hopefully drawing more consumers to the downtown. A lot of stakeholders have come together on this and we're especially thankful to the Chambersburg Area Development Corporation who has pledged a portion of the matching funds for this project."

Town Council initially heard a presentation from GMS Funding Solutions on June 27, 2016. It outlined the proposed scope of work, which included four phases of improvements, carrying an estimated total cost of \$1.1 million. Town Council unanimously voted in favor of advancing the initiative, including the MTF grant request.

President Coffman commented, "The project may need to be scaled or phased, based on the availability of matching funds. But, Town Council is committed to improving multimodal accessibility throughout the Borough."

The MTF Program is funded through revenue from the 2013 transportation bill (Act 89-2013).

Please send any questions or comments to Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager, at jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov

Chambersburg is a unique community. Pennsylvania's only municipal natural gas utility, owned and operated by the citizens of the Borough; Chambersburg is also Pennsylvania's largest municipal electric utility, and the only one that owns and operates generation stations. Chambersburg provides natural gas, electricity, water, sewer, parking and trash for the residents and businesses throughout most of the Borough. Under local control, rates, policies, etc., that are decided locally by the Chambersburg Town Council. Chambersburg currently has 20,360 residents (2012). www.chambersburgpa.gov