

Reading Area Transportation Study

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c/o Berks County Planning Commission
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TO: Reading Area Transportation Study Technical Committee
Reading Area Transportation Study Coordinating Committee

INFO: Municipalities
RATS Mail List

FROM: Alan D. Piper, Transportation Planner III

DATE: July 3, 2024

RE: Confirmation of e-Ballot for West Shore Bypass Phase 1 – Final Design (MPMS# 114439)

In early June, 2024, we were informed by PennDOT of the need to conduct an e-Ballot regarding an Amendment to the FFY 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program.

This Amendment is required to add \$19,110,000 for Final Design for the West Shore Bypass Reconstruction on the FFY 2023 RATS TIP to enable the consultant to complete the Final Design, Advertise, and Let the project. The current estimated Let Date is July 15, 2027. The Preliminary Engineering phase has been completed and PennDOT would like to advance funding for the preparation of Final Design to the FFY2023-2026 TIP (current).

The proposal is as follows:

MPMS 114439 – West Shore Bypass Phase 1 (Addition of Final Design to FFY 2023-26 TIP)

This project involves highway reconstruction / widening of US Route 422 (the West Shore Bypass) including the complete reconstruction to six lanes beginning at the Buttonwood Street overpass in West Reading through the Lancaster Avenue interchange in the City of Reading. The reconstruction includes reconfiguration of the Penn Street /Penn Avenue interchange and the Lancaster Avenue interchange, reconstruction of the Bingaman Street Bridge and associated bicycle and pedestrian connections. The project also includes replacement of the Schuylkill River Bridge and US 422 over Norfolk Southern Railroad bridge west of the Interstate 176 interchange, including reconstruction of the I-176N to US 422 W on-ramp in Cumru Township. Also included are preventative maintenance activities on the US 422 bridges over Brentwood Drive, the Schuylkill River east of Lancaster Avenue and the Schuylkill River east of I-176.

The Preliminary Engineering phase has been completed and PennDOT would like to advance funding for the preparation of Final Engineering to the FFY2-23-2026 TIP (current).

Funding Requested

Original Estimate in FFY 2023 TIP - \$0.00
Increase Required - \$19,110,000.00

PennDOT is requesting approval of \$19,110,000 for Final Design on the FFY 2023 RATS TIP to enable the consultant to complete the Final Design, Advertise, and Let the project. The current estimated Let Date is July 15, 2027.

The project is consistent with the current Reading MPO FFY 2023-2045 Long Range Transportation Plan.

Funding Source

The funding sources will be from multiple projects included on the current TIP that will not be obligated prior to the end of the current TIP cycle on September 30, 2024. All funding is fully restored upon final approval of the FFY 2025 TIP.

Funding for this phase is programmed on the draft 2025 RATS TI, but not enough to cover the entire need.

The RATS Technical and Coordinating Committees were forwarded the information above along with associated fiscal constraint table (attached) documenting the recommended move by an e-Ballot on June 13, 2024. A YES vote was asked to approve the action providing the additional funds for the West Shore Bypass Phase I Final Design with the associated funding shifts as noted.

The results were as follows:

Technical Committee

Alas – Yes (6/17/24)
Boatman – Yes (6/17/24)
Golembiewski – Yes (6/13/24)
Piper – Yes (6/13/24)
Zeiber – Yes (6/13/24)
Krall – Yes (6/13/24)
Tempesco – Not Voting
Vottero (Chair) - Tie Break Only

Approved 6-0 w/ one not voting.

Coordinating Committee

Adolini – Yes (6/17/24)
Rivera – Yes (6/17/24)
Santoni – Yes (6/14/24)
McKeon – Yes (6/14/24)
Rowe – Yes (6/14/24)
Lambert – Yes (6/13/24)
Hoffa – Yes (6/13/24)
Reed– Yes (6/13/24)
Downing – Yes (6/17/24)
Kufro (Chair) - Tie Break Only

Approved 9-0

ACTION:

Confirmation of these ballot results is requested of both the Technical Committee at its meeting on July 11, 2024 and the Coordinating Committee at its meeting on July 18, 2024.

RATS Metropolitan Planning Organization

FISCAL CONSTRAINT TABLE

FFY 2023-2026 TIP Highway (Bridge) Element

TIP Modifications Number 086
PMC Administrative Action Request

MPO Tech Meeting: June 6, 2024 July 11, 2024

MPO Coord Meeting: July 18, 2024

Reserve Line Item	102189	CON	Adjust	BOF	185														0.00			
			Adjust	BRIP																0.00		
			Adjust	NHPP	581															(198,022.00)		
			Adjust	STP																(3,612,131.00)		
Berks County			After	BOF	185				315	330,243			65,463			492,788	420,764		15,870,358	23,662,239	40,842,170.00	
			After	BRIP								7,436							47,266,602		47,274,038.00	
			After	NHPP	581				0				120,829							12,408,149		12,528,978.00
			After	STP					17,918						39,508					6,588,590		6,646,016.00
All project information inserted above this line to keep array formula working in overall constraint representation																						
Before FFY Totals					0	0	0	10,406,370	536,040	0	18,721,078	5,157,326	0	13,701,131	4,361,826	0	127,808,691	42,914,977	0	223,607,439	Actions do not affect the project delivery schedules or air quality conformity.	
FFY Adjustment Totals					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		(0)
After FFY Totals					0	0	0	10,406,370	536,040	0	18,721,078	5,157,326	0	13,701,131	4,361,826	0	127,808,691	42,914,977	0	223,607,439		

NOTES:

This chart sent to Nyomi/Dave with the PMC Writeup on 5/29/24 for consideration at the next PMC meeting and for committal.