



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

November 23, 2021

Dear Luzerne County Council Members:

I am writing to you today to highlight the importance of the Luzerne County Transportation Authority (LCTA) maintenance facility and obtaining documented agreement to fund the remaining local match to allow the project to move into construction.

Over the past several years, The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has worked closely with LCTA staff to acquire and demolish the former Murray Complex, as well as design a state-of-the-art transit facility that allows LCTA to merge their fixed route and shared-ride services under one roof while allowing for entirely indoor storage of vehicles.

A significant state and federal investment in the millions of dollars has been invested to date in this project. PennDOT, in addition to the Federal Transit Administration, have fully funded the project. State law requires local match of 3.3% of state funds. Based on the current funding plan, approximately \$750,000 in local funding needs to be committed to fully satisfy the local match requirement.

Public bid opening took place on October 7, 2021. The current low bid for the new LCTA maintenance facility will expire on January 5, 2022, which is 90 days from the bid opening. LCTA needs a commitment of the remaining estimated local match to move into construction. The LCTA Board of Directors, awarded bids to the prime contractors for the project on Tuesday October 26, pending the remaining local match being committed from the County. It is important that a commitment of the funds from the county be provided to avoid delaying the project any further. If a local match commitment is not provided, the project will have to be re-bid thus increasing the cost of this project and the local match.

PennDOT has provided significant support for this project by committing both discretionary state and federal funding that could be supporting other projects around the State. We would like to advance this project quickly with your support. We appreciate that Luzerne County has always been a supporter of public transportation that is critical in providing millions of trips each year and look forward to partnering together in the future.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennie A. Louwerse".

Jennie A. Louwerse, AICP, Deputy Secretary
Multimodal Transportation