

## **TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION**

### **Issue Briefing**

**Topic:** Seventh Amendment to Funding Agreement between SEPTA and Lower Merion Township for Ardmore Transit Center

**Prepared By:** Angela N. Murray, AICP, Assistant Director Building & Planning

**Date:** October 4, 2016

#### **I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:**

The Board of Commissioners is requested to approve the Seventh Amendment to the Funding Agreement between SEPTA and the Township for the redevelopment of the Ardmore Station. This Amendment will terminate the Township's responsibilities to design and manage the construction of the new Ardmore Station for which SEPTA and PennDOT have assumed responsibility.

#### **II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:**

The Ardmore Station project is a part of the Ardmore Transit Center project. The Township has partnered with SEPTA to fund and manage the design, development and completion of the project with new ADA accessible facilities and pedestrian improvements. The Township entered into the Funding Agreement in May 2006 retroactive to December 2004.

#### **III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable):**

The Board of Commissioners has approved six prior Amendments to the Funding Agreement between SEPTA and the Township for the Ardmore Transit Center project since 2007.

#### **IV. Other Relevant Background Information:**

The Ardmore Station improvements are the second phase of the two phase Ardmore Transit Center project whose goal has been to revitalize the Ardmore business district. The first phase of the Ardmore Transit Center project is the mixed-use/retail component, One Ardmore Place on the Cricket Lot, construction of which is scheduled to commence this fall. The second phase of the Ardmore Transit Center includes the construction of the new Ardmore Station and foundations to support the 500 space garage. The garage itself has been designed but remains unfunded.

SEPTA and the Township entered into a Funding Agreement effective December 8, 2004 which has been amended on July 6, 2007, February 12, 2009, February 4, 2010, October 21, 2011 and June 28, 2012. The Township special counsel for the Ardmore Transit Center has reviewed the Seventh Amendment that was prepared by counsel for SEPTA. The Seventh Amendment to the Funding Agreement effectively

terminates any further responsibility of the Township to continue funding the required “local match” of 20% that to date totals \$830,266 of the \$4,151,333.

Further agreements for the second phase will be brought to the Board of Commissioners at a later date.

V. **Impact on Township Finances:**

There is no further impact on Township finances. If anything, this relieves the Township of providing the remainder of the match for the grant.

VI. **Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the Board approve the Seventh Amendment to the Funding Agreement.