SPECIAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Todd M. Sinai, President

May 14, 2025 - 6:20 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Public Comment

The Floor is open to provide the opportunity for the public to address the Board on matters relating to agenda items which will be voted upon at this meeting.

Response to Public Comment - Appropriate time for any member of the Board, the Township Manager, or designated staff person to address or respond to any statement made by a member of the public during the Public Comment portion of the agenda.

4. Adoption of Resolution

a. RESOLUTION - ADDRESSING THE FUNDING CRISIS FACED BY THE SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SEPTA)

5. Adjournment



AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

COMMITTEE:

ITEM: RESOLUTION - ADDRESSING THE FUNDING CRISIS FACED BY THE SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SEPTA)

Consider for adoption a Resolution addressing the funding crisis faced by SEPTA and petitioning the elected officials of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for a bipartisan commitment to a reliable, sufficient public funding solution for mass transportation in Pennsylvania that would avoid the devastating proposed cuts to SEPTA service.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Resolution - SEPTA Funding Crisis

Type Resolution

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

RESOLUTION NO.

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) faces a funding crisis, and;

WHEREAS, this funding crisis has forced SEPTA to propose draconian service cuts, including elimination of five (5) Regional Rail Lines, elimination of 50 bus lines, and a 9:00 pm curfew on the decimated remaining services, and;

WHEREAS, these service cuts, and especially those to the Paoli/Thorndale and Cynwyd train lines and the 44, 52, 103, and 106 bus lines, will have a devastating effect on the historic "Main Line" community of Lower Merion Township, and;

WHEREAS, the eight train stops and four bus lines in Lower Merion proposed for elimination are vital for:

- The many Lower Merion businesses and corporate headquarters, that depend on them for transit of employees and customers, and
- The six major hospitals, universities, and colleges that are based in Lower Merion and whose faculty, staff, students, and patients rely on SEPTA, and
- The commercial areas of Ardmore, Bala Cynwyd, Bryn Mawr, Haverford, Rosemont and Wynnewood, whose vibrancy depends on their customers taking SEPTA, and
- The residents of Lower Merion who rely on these lines and routes to commute to work, and
- The economic growth and vitality of Lower Merion as new development relies on efficient and effective public transit, and
- The quality of life in Lower Merion, which depends on these SEPTA services to manage automobile congestion on our roads, and;

WHEREAS, Lower Merion in turn depends on the health and vitality of the broader southeastern Pennsylvania region, which also would be devastated by the proposed service reductions, with serious and long-lasting effects on SEPTA's 400,000 daily riders and the communities served in the region, a significant increase in vehicles on area roadways causing unbearable traffic conditions and excessive air pollution, and many fewer jobs in the region with enormous negative economic impact for the Commonwealth and local governments, and;

WHEREAS, investment in efficient and effective public transit linking Lower Merion with Southeastern Pennsylvania, such as the new Ardmore Train Station, will enhance the economic vitality and growth of local businesses, corporations, educational institutions, hospitals, and the quality of life in the Township and region, which in turn benefits the Commonwealth. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion to petition the elected officials of the Commonwealth for a bipartisan commitment to a reliable, sufficient public funding solution for mass transportation in Pennsylvania that would avoid the devastating proposed cuts to SEPTA service.

RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion this _____ day of ______, 2025.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Todd M. Sinai, President

ATTEST:

Jody L. Kelley, Secretary