



SEPTA

**Norristown High Speed Line Extension Draft EIS
Community Working Group Agenda**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2016 (7 p.m.)
Upper Merion Township Building**

I. Welcome & review of last meeting

- a. Re-introductions; new members
- b. Meeting summary
- c. Who uses public transit now and when might you need it?

II. Discussion/Presentation

- NEPA overview
 - What is the purpose of the Draft EIS and why are we writing it
 - What was used to compare the five build alternatives
- Rationale of the Recommended LPA
- Q&A

III. Project updates

- Neighborhood meetings – 10/4 and 10/11
- What's next?

IV. Wrap-up

- What KOP Rail-related topics would you like to discuss at future meetings?

V. Next Steps/Action Items

- Other Comments/Questions
- Next Meeting – Wednesday, 11/16



Community Working Group Meeting #2 - Summary

Meetings Schedule

CWG meetings will be held at the Upper Merion Township Building and will begin at 7 p.m. Below is the schedule for the remainder of the year. Meetings will continue through 2017 and will be held on the third Wednesday of every month.

Wednesday, November 16th – Valley Forge Room
Tuesday, December 13th – Henderson Room

Meeting #2 Summary

Location: Upper Merion Township Building
Date: Wednesday, October 19th
Time: 7 – 9 p.m.

Attendees:

KOP Rail project team members-

Liz Smith, SEPTA
Fritz Ohrenschall, SEPTA
Bert Cossaboon, McCormick Taylor
Fran O'Brien, McCormick Taylor
Emily Watts, McCormick Taylor
Larry Berkowitz, AECOM

CWG members-

Joan Grunwald
Martin Trumpler
Gary P. Russell
Mark Vondra
Craig Greenwood
Pamela Hale
Traci Ginnona
Ron Ginnona
Jacque Camp
Vivian Peikin
Eric Huhn

The second CWG meeting began with introductions of new members and re-introductions of members who attended the first meeting. A two-part question was proposed to get the discussion started: Who uses transit now and when might you use it? Results of the discussion are provided below.

Who uses transit now?

- Non-drivers and those who cannot drive
- Commuters
- Those who do not want to deal with traffic
- Those who are out drinking
- Environmentally conscience
- Bike to transit users
- Attendees at special events/sporting events/etc.



When might you use transit?

- When told not to drive because of increase in volume or safety reasons
- When going to Center City for special events (i.e. sporting events, restaurants, shows, parades, etc.)
- When going to the airport
- When the weather is bad
- Commute into the city
- Economic benefit
- Do not have to worry about parking
- More reliable
- Bike to stations
- Environmentally conscience

After the warm-up exercise, a presentation was given on the NEPA process and how it relates to the KOP Rail project. Several questions arose about the make-up of the other committees and who sits on those committees. As a follow-up item, a list of committees was emailed to the group to inform them of what entities are involved. CWG members are not invited to participate at other committee meetings..

There were many questions and requests to have the UMT Supervisors and other elected officials present. The UMT Supervisors are aware of these meetings. An open invitation will be sent to them moving forward.

The group requested more information on ridership, where the riders are coming from and going to, and where the information that is being used in the ridership model comes from. Ridership and the ridership model will be a main topic at a future CWG meeting.

There was some discussion about the No Action Alternative not being effective. The No Action Alternative is not effective compared to the Purpose and Need of the King of Prussia Rail Project which can be found on the project website: www.kingofprussiarail.com.

There was a request for photos being taken at a house in Brandywine Village and a rendering be produced. SEPTA and McCormick Taylor will have photos taken at that residence and determine if the structure will be seen from that location.

Members are encouraged to identify topics, on index cards or to be emailed to Emily, related to KOP Rail or transportation in UMT in which they would like more information or explanation. These topics in addition to topics identified by the project team will be addressed in future meetings.

Action items:

- Committee lists sent to CWG members
- Email Purpose and Need document to CWG members
- "Backyard" photo from Traci's home on Walker Lane
- Compile ridership information
- Need more information on Abrams Yard alternative and why it was eliminated