



The Almshouse Neshaminy Manor Center 1260 Almshouse Road
Doylestown, Pennsylvania 18901 215.345.3400 FAX 215.345.3886
E-mail: planningcommission@buckscounty.org

PLANNING COMMISSION:

Tom Tosti, *Chairman*
Richard Donovan, *Vice Chairman*
Thomas J. Jennings, Esq., *Secretary*

James J. Keenan
James E. Miller, Jr.
David R. Nyman
Judith J. Reiss
Edward J. Tokmajian
Walter S. Wydro

Evan J. Stone
Executive Director

February 25, 2022

**RE: Newtown Rail Trail Update
Phase 2, Bristol Road to Churchville Nature Center**

Dear Neighbor:

The Bucks County Commissioners, in cooperation with Northampton Township and SEPTA, have received grant funding to design and construct an extension of the Newtown Rail Trail into Northampton Township utilizing the SEPTA owned rail bed that is adjacent to your property. This phase of work will extend the trail from its current terminus at Bristol Road to the county owned Churchville Nature Center where a connection from the rail trail to the nature center will be installed. Gilmore & Associates of New Britain, PA has been awarded the contract to design and engineer this second phase of the Newtown Rail Trail.

We are in the process of establishing our project timeline with Gilmore & Associates and once finalized, we will share key dates and other relative information with you. We anticipate the design and engineering portion of this phase to be completed by fall of 2023, with construction of the trail to begin in 2024. The second phase of the trail will be modeled after the completed section in Upper Southampton Township. In the near future, we expect SEPTA to clear vegetation and remove the existing rails. The extent of vegetation clearing will be limited to only the area needed to remove the rails.

The county is committed to maintaining an open dialogue with all adjacent property owners and has established a project portal on the county's website where you will be able to find project updates and other pertinent information. The project portal can be found here: www.buckscounty.gov/1543/Newtown-Rail-Trail-Phase-Two.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that if you currently have personal property located within the SEPTA property boundary, please remove these items as soon as possible. As with the previous trail segment in Upper Southampton Township, any items that are not removed prior to the start of construction, will be considered abandoned and will be removed during the trail construction process.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Richard Brahler, Director of Transportation Planning at 215-345-3427 or rgrahler@buckscounty.org, Christian Regosch, Transportation Planner at 215-345-3883 or cpregosch@buckscounty.org, or myself at 215-345-3400 or estone@buckscounty.org.

Sincerely,
Bucks County Planning Commission

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "EJS", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Evan J. Stone
Executive Director

EJS/tmr

