

**September 2019**

**Status Report on LVRT Activities**

**Phases 1 through 5, Phase 7 and most of Phase 9 completed between 2000 and 2019, totaling over 18 miles. (see Regionally Significant Trail Network Map)**

**Phase 6 (DCNR Grant # BRC-RTP-17-208)(01/01/12 to 12/31/15) – 2013 Alignment Study in City of Lebanon, West Lebanon Township, North Lebanon Township and North Cornwall Township and Ongoing Phase 6 Activities/Improvements:**

* **Past Activity:** Completed $25,000 planning study in 2013 to determine the preferred route to connect Phase 5 to Phase 7, but Norfolk Southern Railroad (NS RR) would not work with the County/LVRT, Inc. Also developed an alignment to connect Union Canal Tunnel Park with Coleman’s Memorial Park.
* A **new Phase 6 alignment** has been identified that would use the future trail through the John E. Wengert Memorial Park, Chestnut Street right-of-way, county owned land along the Hazel Dike and South 22nd Street, a new bridge over the Quittapahilla Creek on South 22nd Street, existing 22nd Street and/or a partially relocated South 22nd Street, and Lebanon Valley Mall property to go from Phase 5 to Phase 7.
* **Phase 6A** (from the northern end of LVRT Phase 5 to 16th Street) will be the multi-use trail through the John E. Wengert Memorial Park. That was our DCNR grant application for $738,060.00 that was submitted in late March of 2018. It was approved for $500,000.00 from DCNR; however, all parties agreed to use these funds to design all of Phase 6.
* **Phase 6B** (Chestnut Street from 16th Street to South 22nd Street) was LVRT Inc.’s last PennDOT TA Set-Aside grant application; it was submitted in late September of 2017 and approved for the full amount ($964,000.00). Phase 6B also requires $27,213.00 in local funds.
* **Phases 6C** (along a partially realigned South 22nd Street from Chestnut Street across US Route 422 (Cumberland Street)). North Cornwall Township just received approval from PennDOT to reduce the speed limit on South 22nd Street to 25 MPH.
* **And Phase 6D** (using Lebanon Valley Mall property to get to the 25th Street underpass of the NS RR) is also being designed now using the DCNR grant from Phase 6A. Phase 6D was a late July of 2019 grant application to DCED for Multimodal Transportation Funds (MTF) for $1,005,625.
* **Schedule:** Initial study completed in December of 2013. Phases 6A, 6B, 6C and 6D are presently being designed together and may be bid together, even with differing funding sources. Those details will be worked out over the coming months. We are also working with Rep. Ryan’s office on a 2019/2020 state budget line item for funding for South 22nd Street in North Cornwall Township; this would be done through PennDOT’s Turnback Program; and North Cornwall Township is willing to accept this turnback. The entire project might be under construction in late 2020 and all of 2021.
* **Budget:** $25,000 (planning and design) for the original alignment study. The estimated construction cost for Phases 6A, 6B, 6C and 6D is approximately $3.0 million.

**Phase 7 (DCNR Grant # BRC-PRD-20-114)(05/28/15 to 12/31/18) – Shared Use Path in N. Lebanon Township:**

* **Current Activity:** Construction completed in the late summer of 2019 by J. D. Eckman, Inc.
* **Type Project:** Development of 1.8 mile shared use path on railbed. From 25th Street to Long Lane in N. Lebanon Township and includes a 24-space trailhead and transit stop along 25th Street
* **Schedule:** The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 19, 2019.
* **Budget:** estimated at $2,340,000+ (design, construction and inspection)
* **Funding:** $265,000 (DCNR), $617,694 (PennDOT Statewide TAP Funds), $648,401 (LEBCO MPO STP Funds), $733,905 (LEBCO MPO STU Funds) and the remaining balance of nearly $340,000 was secured from LEBCO MPO de-obligated funds from completed TIP projects and from additional Statewide TA Set-Aside Funds from PennDOT.

**Phase 8 – preferred alignment unknown at this time. Future studies will be done in 2020 or 2021 to identify the best location for this project.**

**Phase 9A (DCNR Grant # BRC-RTD-16-245)(02/01/13 to 01/31/18) – Shared Use Path in the Jonestown area:**

* **Current Activity: T**he project is complete. It was done by Rogele, Inc.
* **Type Project:** Development of 1.9 mile shared use path on canal towpath and railbed from the railroad bridge over Swatara Creek north to a new underpass of US Route 22.
* **Schedule:** The project was completed in 2017.
* **Budget:** $1,099,634 (design, construction and inspection)
* **Funding:** $236,000 state DCNR funds and $863,634 in LEBCO MPO Federal STP Funds

**LVRT Phase 9B (bridge redecking over Swatara Creek at Frogs Hollow and 1,700 feet of trail construction south of the bridge):**

* **Current Activity:** A grant for $575,000 was approved by PennDOT on January 10, 2017. The project has just been completed by Kinsley Construction, Inc. (A property owner easement made it much easier and less impactful to access the project by the contractor, so Kinsley agreed to put $70,000 in additional funds into the trail work.)
* **Type Project:** Bridge redecking and rail-trail construction
* **Schedule:** The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 19, 2019.
* **Budget:** $650,000 (design, construction and inspection)
* **Funding:** $575,000 in PennDOT Statewide TAP Funds; $75,000 in LVRT, Inc. funds and $70,000 from the contractor

**Phase 9C (DCNR Grant # BRC-PRD-22- 169)(01/01/17 to 12/31/20) -- extending the rail-trail north of US Route 22 to Phase 10 via existing long-term linear easements and extending the rail-trail south from Phase 9B to New Bunker Hill Road:**

* **Current Activity:** A $425,000 grant was approved by DCNR in late December of 2016. The project is advancing through environmental clearance and final design. The one remaining easement was secured in late March of 2019.
* **Type Project:** Rail-trail construction
* **Schedule:** The bid letting in the fall of 2019; and construction completed in the summer of 2020. A DEP permit is delaying the completion of final design.
* **Budget:** $425,000 (design, construction and inspection)
* **Funding:** $425,000 in DCNR Funds … the “soft” match will come from the PennDOT Statewide TAP Funds approved for with Phase 9B

**Phase 10 – north of US Route 22 to a connection to the trail system in Swatara State Park near Lickdale, PA. Phase 10 will include 3.0 miles of rail-trail and a 40-space trailhead off of Pine Tree Road in Union Township, Lebanon County:**

* **Past and Current Activity:** Acquisition of the John Light property was completed on June 27, 2016. (This will be used for 99% of the LVRT Phase 10 project.) This acquisition was done with 100% LVRT, Inc. funds. The land is mostly former Union Canal tow path property from US Route 22 to north of I-78. Initial survey work was completed, and county-owned property signs have been erected. This purchase will be used as a match for future state and federal grants. In late 2018, a detailed concept plan and budget were drafted that included a major trailhead at Pine Tree Road. In April of 2019, we applied for a DCNR grant for $500,000 for design and construction of a small southern section of Phase 10, including two small bridges; this section is just north of Phase 9C. Two property owner easements or acquisitions still need to be completed near Lickdale.
* **Project Type:** Rail-trail / trailhead construction
* **Schedule:** We need to resolve environmental issues with DEP and to buy land from two property owners or secure long term easements from them in 2019. We will then finalize a site plan /concept plan in late 2019 for all of Phase 10. We will pursue additional grants in the future with PennDOT, DCNR and/or DCED. We would hope to finish final design in 2021 and complete construction in 2022. We may also start to clear and grub some of the land (tow path) where the trail will be located so people can start using it in its current condition.
* **Budget:** $90,000+ for appraisal and initial land acquisition; possibly $500,000 for construction of a small portion of the southern end of Phase 10; and $5.0 million estimated for rail-trail and trailhead construction
* **Funding:** $90,000+ (LVRT, Inc. for initial land acquisition), $2,500 (LEBCO MPO / County for mapping, posting signs and other planning activities); possibly $500,000 from DCNR; possibly $250,000 from a future DCED grant the Lickdale Connector plus LVRT, Inc. funds; and $5.0 million from future state or federal grants for design and construction of the remainder of Phase 10

**PennDOT/Lebanon County/LVRT, Inc. Initiative – Inwood Iron Bridges Project:**

* **Current Phase:** Construction started in early 2019 on the new vehicular bridge over Swatara Creek and torestore andrelocate the historic Inwood Iron Bridge to become part of a new county mini-park on the former Charles and Charlotte Allwein property. The new vehicular bridge over Swatara Creek will be owned by Lebanon County. The bid letting took place in late February 2019. The responsible low bidder at $5.1 million was J.D. Eckman, Inc.
* **Type Project:** New bridge construction and historic bridge restoration/relocation (This location could also be the site for a future boat launch into Swatara Creek.)
* **Schedule:** All aspects of the project should be completed in late 2020.
* **Budget:** $6.0 million +/- secured from PennDOT with discretionary funds
* **Funding:** PennDOT and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Updated on September 9, 2019