



SEPTA
Norristown High Speed Line Extension DEIS
Community Working Group Agenda

Wednesday, September 14, 2016 (7 p.m.)
Upper Merion Township Building

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Purpose of CWG

- Overview of the CWG
- CWG Goals and Expectations
- Meeting frequency
- General Ground rules

III. Topics of Discussion

- Exercise: What makes Upper Merion Township a great place to live? What would make Upper Merion Township better?
- Local Issues and Concerns

IV. Project updates

- Project Overview
- Status of the Draft EIS
- Public Hearing Process

V. Wrap-up

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

VI. Next Steps/Action Items

- Other Comments/Questions
- Next Meeting



Goals of CWG:

- Educate and inform representatives from the UMT community.
- Develop a constructive conversation among SEPTA, the project team, and a variety of community members.
- Discuss a variety of topics throughout the course of the project.
- **Meet on a monthly basis through the DEIS.**
- Designate a facilitator to lead discussions for the meetings.

Ground Rules:

- Feel free to express your thoughts, concerns and questions during the meetings respectfully.
- Consider all points of view. Listen carefully to other's comments and ask questions for clarification.
- Share project information with neighbors and friends. Make sure the information comes from the project website, newsletters and project team staff.
- If you hear issues or concerns from neighbors and friends, please share those with the group.
- We prefer that you do not speak to the media about Working Group discussions. If you do, remember that you do not represent SEPTA, the project or the project team.
- Let us know if you will not be able to attend a meeting so that we may make adjustments.
- Meeting notes will be provided but you may want to keep your own notes.
- If you have a lot to say, use the "rule of three": let three others speak before speaking again.
- We will try to stick to the agenda. If you want to share something unrelated to the KOP Rail project, please be brief.
- The meetings are open to invited members of the Working Group only. Please do not invite others to attend with you or on your behalf.
- Make any suggestions that will make the Working Group more effective.

How members were chosen:

The Community Working Group was formed to give residents of Upper Merion Township a platform to learn, ask questions and give feedback on the progress of the KOP Rail project in a small group setting. Goals for the committee include: educate and inform representatives from the UMT community; develop constructive conversation among SEPTA, the project team, and a variety of community members; discuss a variety of topics; and meet once a month. Members of the committee were identified based on public meeting attendance, emails received at the project email address and comment cards received.

We limited the number of participants so that members might have thoughtful conversations, the opportunity to speak with SEPTA, and ask project team members and experts questions.



How the CWG will inform the DEIS and FEIS:

Early and continuing opportunities for public involvement are essential elements and required under federal law (National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 or NEPA). NEPA compliance requires SEPTA to complete a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS).

Forming a Community Working Group is one element of an extensive public and inter-agency involvement process being conducted by SEPTA for the KOP Rail project. Members of the Community Working Group will represent a wide range of interests within the King of Prussia area. Members have knowledge of how communications occur within the KOP community; as a result, the Community Working Group will help SEPTA to increase attendance at public meetings and other public forums.

Throughout the DEIS and in the FEIS, the Community Working Group provides an opportunity for the participants to be involved in the identification of social, economic, and environmental impacts, as well as impacts associated with possible relocations. The Community Working Group also gives participants the opportunity to identify and discuss a range of possible minimization and mitigation actions which could reduce and avoid impacts. As station area plans continue to be refined, the Community Working Group can serve as a sounding board for ideas on parking, shuttle bus access, sidewalks connections, crosswalks, etc. These are just some examples of how involvement in the Community Working Group can influence the DEIS and FEIS for KOP Rail.

Throughout the planning process for the KOP Rail project, SEPTA provided a number of opportunities to discuss issues, frame solutions, and affect final decisions. Knowledge is the basis of such active participation in a planning process and the Community Working Group provides that avenue for King of Prussia community members. Through continued interaction with the Community Working Group, SEPTA enables the public to have the opportunity to shape the substance of plans and actions for the KOP Rail project.