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<u>Grant Funding</u> Announced for Cynwyd Heritage Trail; Bala Avenue Streetscape Improvements

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The city of Philadelphia has been awarded \$1.3 million through the Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative (PCTI) Smart Transportation Program to extend the Cynwyd Heritage Trail (CHT) over the Manayunk Bridge to Philadelphia. "This is excellent news that will help fulfill the vision for the Cynwyd Heritage Trail," remarked **Chris Leswing**, Assistant Director of Building and Planning. There is no financial commitment required from the Township to benefit from this grant.

The William Penn Foundation/DCNR-sponsored Feasibility Study will now be morphed into a feasibility design build project with an eye towards construction over the next 18-24 months as a result of the additional funding.

In all, "Smart Transportation" projects in 41 communities across the state received a total of \$24.7 million in funding under this second round of PCTI grants. The City Avenue Special Services District was also among the recipients, with an award of \$300,000 toward streetscape improvements on Bala Avenue.

The Pennsylvania Community Transportation Initiative is a competitive funding program to support and encourage local transportation projects that exemplify the goals of Smart Transportation. "Smart Transportation means partnering to build great communities for future generations of Pennsylvanians by linking transportation investments and land-use planning and decision-making," said PennDOT Secretary Allen D. Biehler, P.E. "The Smart Transportation initiative has made great progress in advancing livability and sustainability goals.

PennDOT received 238 <u>applications</u> from cities, boroughs, townships, Metropolitan and Rural Planning Organizations, transit agencies and advocacy groups requesting more

than \$175 million. The list of successful projects support local economic development; encourage walkable, multimodal, mixed-use development; improve regional connectivity; or enhance the existing transportation network.

PCTI funding comes from the state's Transportation Improvement Program and is provided to project sponsors on a reimbursement basis after work is completed.

Free viewers are required for some of the attached documents. They can be downloaded by clicking on the icons below.











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