



Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

DR. CHRISTOPHER R. AMATO
Chair

CHRISTINA V. MORGAN
Vice Chair

ARMANDO MORITZ-CHAPELLIQUEN
Treasurer

BECKY A. BRADLEY, AICP
Executive Director

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, June 27th, 2024 at 5:30 pm
AGENDA

THE MEETING CAN BE ACCESSED AT <https://tinyurl.com/LVPC2024> OR VIA PHONE 610-477-5793 Conf ID: 928 251 831#.

Roll Call

Courtesy of the Floor

Old Business:

- 1. INFORMATION ITEM: 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program Adoption by the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study and Next Steps (BD)

New Business:

- 1. ACTION ITEM: Street Vacation Petition Ruhr Street and Hill Street Review (BH)
- 2. INFORMATION ITEM: Youth Bike Summit Report (EG)
- 3. INFORMATION ITEM: Local Technical Assistance Program On-Site Municipal Report (BH, BB)
- 4. INFORMATION ITEM: Active and Upcoming Projects (BB)

Monthly Reports:

- 1. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Monthly Traffic Count Report (BH)
- 2. *INFORMATION ITEM*: Bridge Projects Status Updates (BD)

Next Transportation Committee Meeting:

July 25, 2024, at 5:30 pm



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Planning for the Future of Lehigh and Northampton Counties at 615 Waterfront Drive, Suite 201, Allentown, PA 18102 ■ (610) 264-4544 ■ lvpc@lvpc.org ■ www.lvpc.org

June 10, 2024

Michael P. Hanlon
435 West Hamilton Street
Allentown PA 18101
Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPA.gov

RE: **Street Vacation Petition**
○ **Hill Street from South Saint Lucas to South Ruhr Street**
○ **South Ruhr Street from Willow Street to Hill Street**
City of Allentown, Lehigh County

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) will consider the subject street vacation petition at its Transportation Planning Committee and Full Commission meetings, pursuant to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code (MPC). Discussion on agenda items largely happens during the Committee meeting. Both meetings are virtual, please see the meeting details below to attend. The LVPC will issue a follow-up letter after the Commission meeting should the Commission have any additional comments or revisions.

- LVPC Transportation Planning Committee Meeting
 - June 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM
 - <https://lvpc.org/meetings.html>
- LVPC Full Commission Meeting
 - June 27, 2024 at 7:00 PM
 - <https://lvpc.org/meetings.htm>

Mr. Hanlon,

The proposed street vacation petition was reviewed for recommendations under Section 304 of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, and for general consistency with the intent of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan*.

The proposed street vacation application was submitted by the City of Allentown on behalf of Jose A. Cartagena, Sr. of 222 South Saint Lucas Street. The proposed street vacation requests vacating Hill Street from South Saint Lucas Street to South Ruhr Street and the vacating of South Ruhr Street from Willow Street to Hill Street. It should be noted that Elizabeth Riveria is listed as a co-signer of the petition and is the sole listed property owner of 222 South Saint Lucas Street.

Hill Street and South Ruhr Street at the location petitioned to be vacated are undeveloped, unimproved plotted streets. The area is currently maintained by property owners and is essentially landscaping and unimproved rights of way. The petitioner wishes to have control over the area of rights of way that have been maintained and kept up for property maintenance.

The petition indicates that the areas petitioned to be vacated have been in the current state for over 30 years.

The street vacation petition was co-signed by Rodney Reiss of 2127 West Fairview Street, Daniel Tulloch of 2151 West Fairview Street. Karen Esbensen of 214 South Saint Lucas Street, and Jay Esty of 215 South 22nd Street and It is recommended that the petitioner also acquire concurrence signatory from the owners of 2143 and 2135 West Fairview Street, as those parcels will have a portion of property responsibility of the vacated area if the petition is granted. Concurrence of all property owners brings awareness of property and maintenance responsibilities of the area petitioned to be vacated if granted. (*FutureLV: The Regional Plan, Policy 2.2*)

It is recommended utilities that are above or below ground remain accessible as they are today in the event of maintenance or repair that may be required to maintain the essential power and telecommunications utilities as well as any City of Allentown or Lehigh County utilities and infrastructure required to sustain the public health, safety and welfare of the community. It is also recommended that any emergency access to utilities and to access properties be maintained to ensure proper response by emergency services personnel (*FutureLV: The Regional Plan, Policy 5.4*)

If the petition is granted the city should consider the sidewalk mobility gap along South Saint Lucas Street at the frontage to the portion of Hill Street to be vacated. Sidewalk infrastructure with accommodations in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure accessibility for all people and to promote alternative modes of transportation options is recommended to provide alternative modes of transportation and for continuity and connectivity for the community especially in a primarily walking Allentown School District. (*FutureLV: The Regional Plan, Policy 2.3*)

The vacating of rights of way by the City of Allentown for the described Hill Street from South Saint Lucas Street to South Ruhr Street and South Ruhr Street from Willow Street to Hill Street would not negatively affect current traffic circulation as the area general transportation network is intended to remain the same as it currently exists.

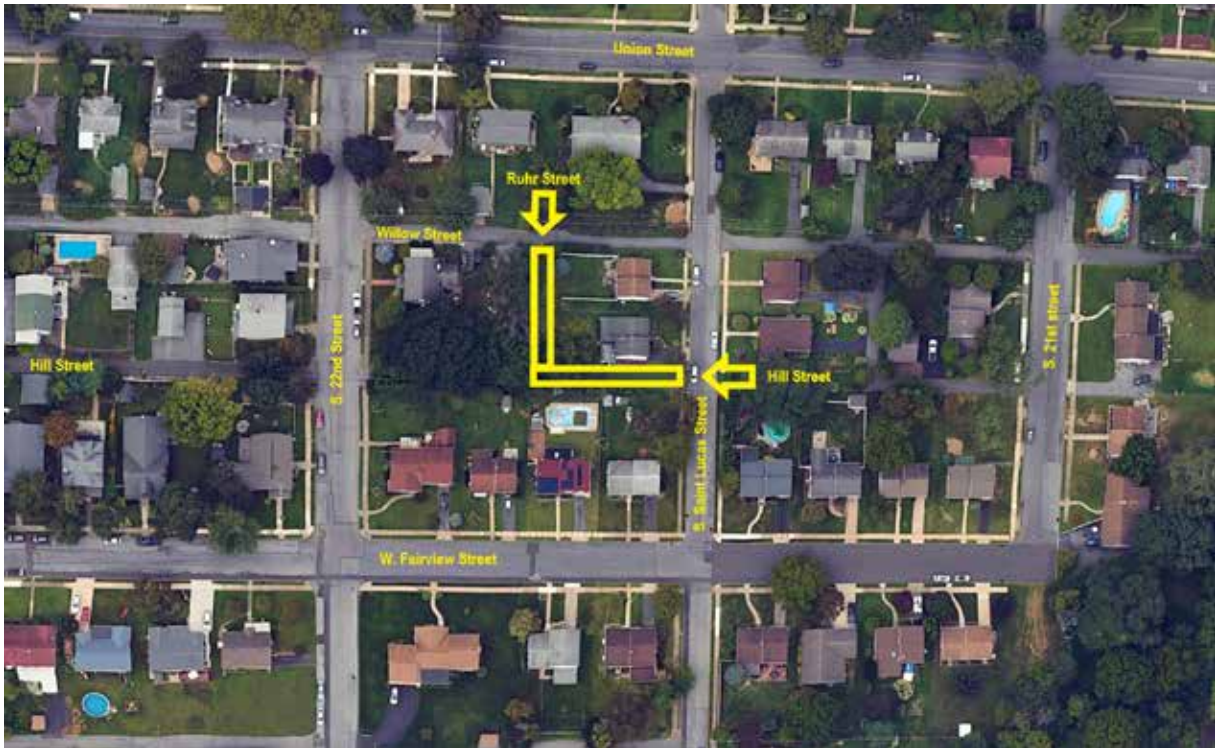
The LVPC appreciates the City of Allentown's consideration of the goals and policies of *FutureLV: The Regional Plan* in as much as it relates to the street vacation petitions for Hill Street from South Saint Lucas Street to South Ruhr Street and South Ruhr Street from Willow Street to Hill Street

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may have regarding the LVPC review.



Brian Hite
Transportation Planner

Attachments



Courtesy Google Earth,
Yellow boxes are the areas petitioned to be vacated of rights-of-way



County of Lehigh County PA, data.pa.gov, New Jersey Office of GIS, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS | Lehigh County GIS, Lehigh County IT
Blue box are the areas petitioned to be vacated of rights-of-way



View of Hill Street looking west from South Saint Lucas Street
Area in Yellow is petitioned to be vacated.



View of Ruhr Street looking North from area of Hill Street
Area in Yellow is petitioned to be vacated.



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MEMORANDUM

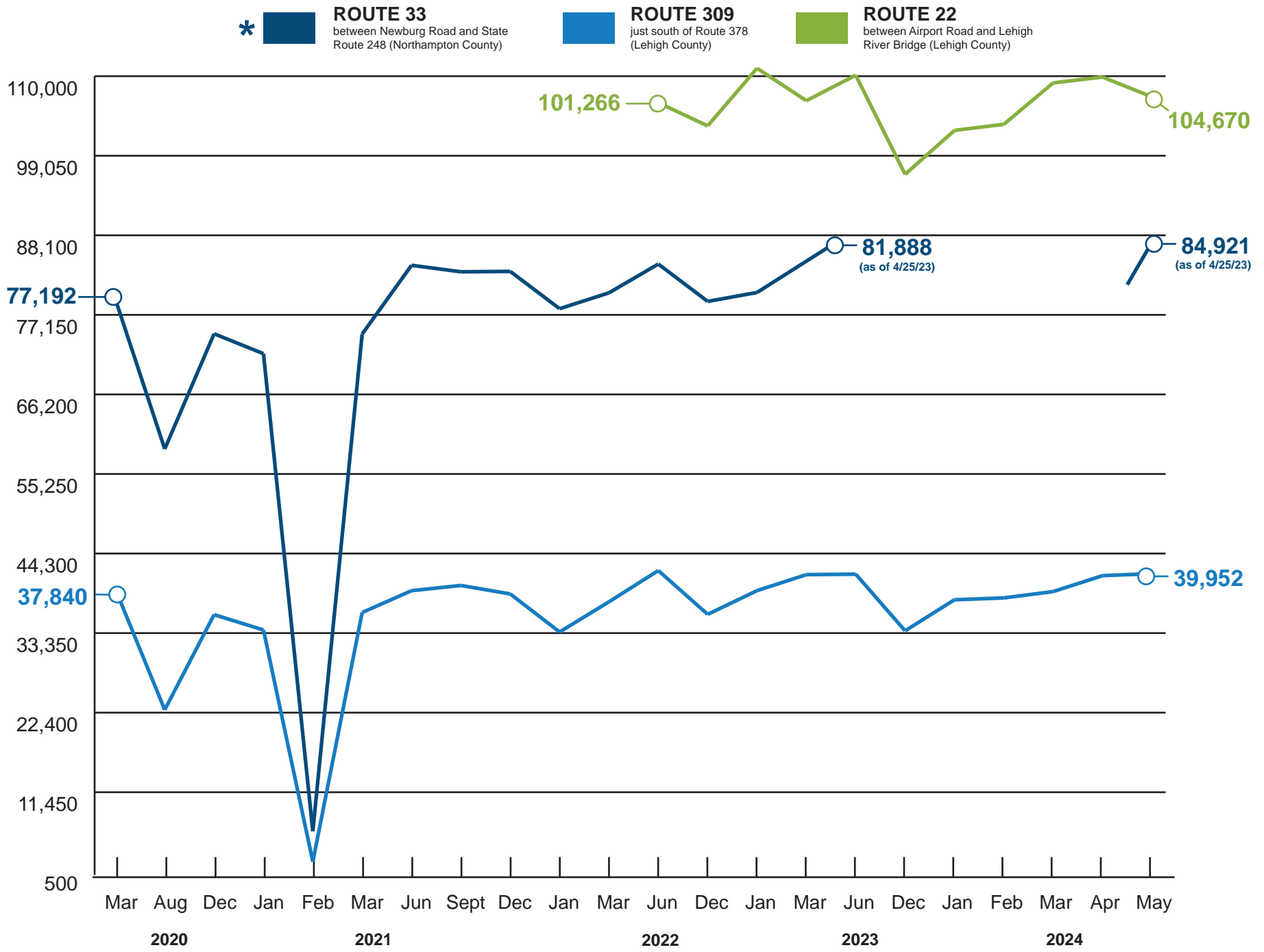
DATE: June 13, 2024
TO: LVPC Transportation Committee
FROM: Becky Bradley, AICP, Executive Director
CC:
REGARDING: 2024 LVPC Work Program Update – Transportation Projects Underway/Active and Upcoming

Below is a summary of the 2024 LVPC Work Program as it relates to our transportation program obligations. This list is organized by active/underway and upcoming projects, by federal requirement for the balance of 2024. Additional details will be provided at the upcoming meeting.

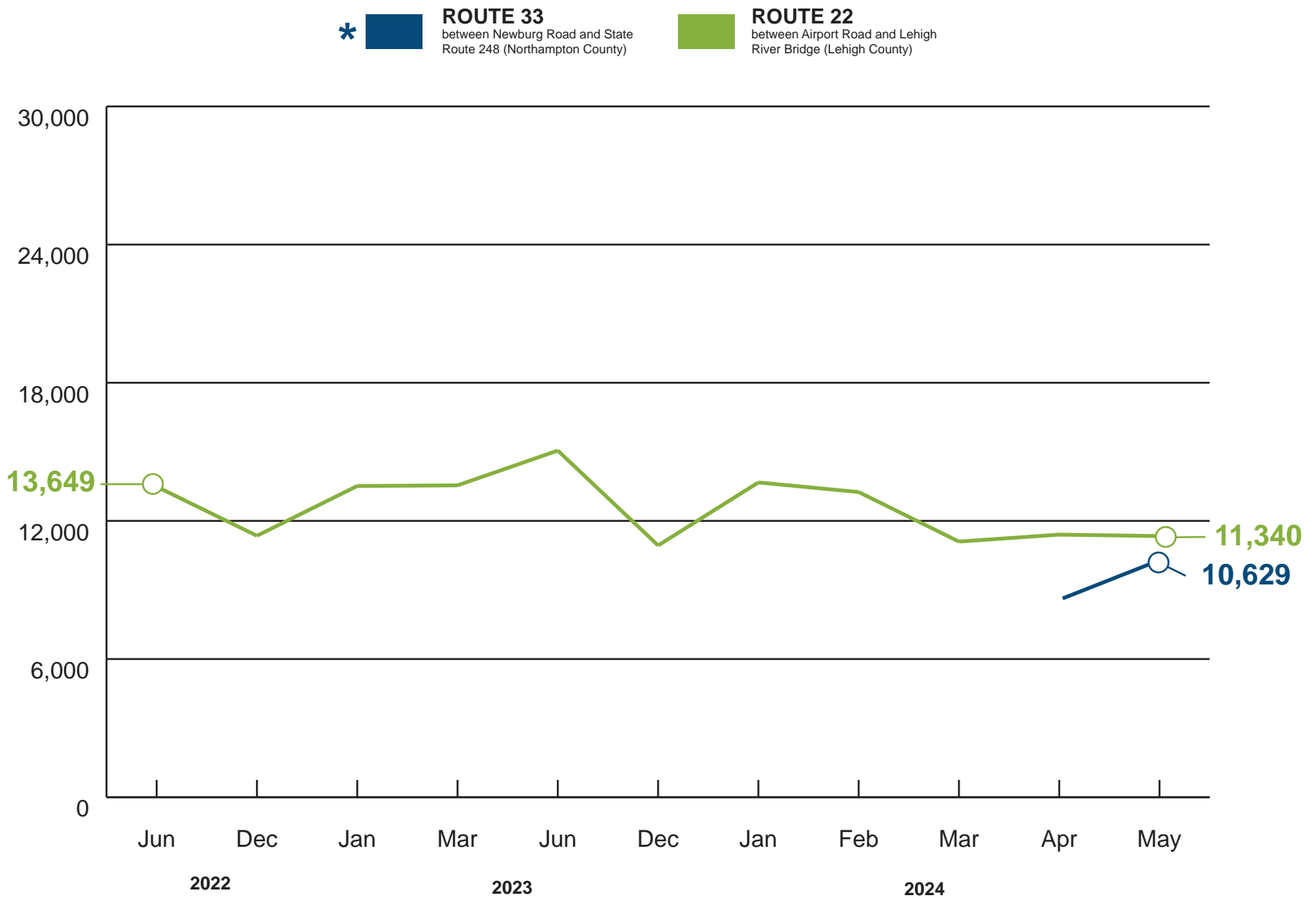
Major Projects/Plans	Federal Requirement?	Status
Unified Planning Work Program for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025	Yes	Underway
Unified Planning Work Program for July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026	Yes	Upcoming, Fall
2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program Management and Regulatory Compliance	Yes	Underway/Active
2025-2029 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Regulatory Process Update	Yes	Underway/Active
Federal Partner Award Regulatory Compliance for TIP Inclusion	Yes	Underway/Active
Highway Performance Monitoring System Program	Yes	Underway/Active
Local Technical Assistance Program - Classroom Training	Yes	Underway/Active
Local Technical Assistance Program - On-Site Municipal Technical Assistance	Yes	Underway/Active
Coordinated Human Services Transit Plan Update	Yes	Underway/Active
Safety Data Update	Yes	Underway/Active
Line Items Project Selection Process Development	Yes	Upcoming, Fall

Eastern Pennsylvania Freight Alliance – Freight Infrastructure Plan Update	Yes	Underway/Active
Federal Certification Review Report Update	Yes	Underway/Active
Riverside Drive Land Development Process Update	No	Underway/Active
Lehigh County Freight-Land Use Guidance for Local Governments	No	Upcoming/Fall
Scope of Work Development and Project Management for the Route 22 Infrastructure Study	Yes	Underway/Active
Lehigh Valley Green Transportation Infrastructure Project	No	Underway/Active
Municipal Partner Active Transportation and Safety Plans and Projects:	No	Underway/Active
Walk Audit Partner Program with AARP-Pennsylvania and United Way	No	Underway/Active
City of Allentown	No	Underway/Active
Palmer Township	No	Underway/Active
South Whitehall Township	No	Underway/Active
City of Easton	No	Underway/Active
City of Bethlehem	No	Underway/Active
To Be Determined - Passenger Rail – Phase II	No	To Be Determined

TOTAL VEHICLE TRAFFIC



TOTAL TRUCK TRAFFIC



**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY
BRIDGE STATUS REPORT
MEETING JUNE 12, 2024**

**SR 145 over Jordan Creek Bridge Replacement (C-C. Frey)
City of Allentown and Whitehall Township, Lehigh County
MPMS 110076 – est. let April 1, 2026**

- Coordination continuing with LANta regarding their bus stops and Enhanced Bus Service (EBS) project
- Coordination initiated with the municipalities regarding the Jordan Creek Greenway Trail but on hold until temporary impacts fully established for stream rehabilitation work
- Design team continuing to work on Preliminary TCP submission, including operational analysis of adjacent intersections during each stage
- Field meeting held with PADEP and PAFBC to discuss stream rehabilitation measures to be installed in conjunction with the bridge replacement and their limits. Design team conducting H&H analysis on up to 4 scenarios. Final TS&L and geotechnical investigations on hold until preferred alternative established with PADEP and PAFBC
- Currently, all preliminary engineering plans and reporting are scoped to be included with US 22 Widening in anticipation of the projects being packaged together for construction, which is no longer feasible with the US 22 breakout project delivery approach. Supplement to establish scope for a free-standing project just executed

**SR 378 Hill to Hill Bridge Rehabilitation over Lehigh River (C-B. Teles)
City of Bethlehem, Lehigh and Northampton Counties
MPMS 93630 – est. let July 24, 2025**

- ROW progressing
- Lighting progressing
- Coordination with Norfolk Southern continues
- PUC field meeting to be held May 30, 2024
- Utility meeting held January 26, 2024, other coordination continues
- Boring Contract #1 ongoing under the bridge, boring Contract #2 has been initiated, foundation design initiated
- Traffic Coordination continues for staging, signals and pedestrian crossings, additional traffic data collection/analysis continues
- Highway and Bridge design continues
- Permit related activities continue
- Stormwater Management activities progressing
- Coordination with USCG and FHWA continues, submitted package to FHWA April 30, 2024
- Meeting held with Fountain Hill May 7, 2024, and with St. Luke's April 1, 2024

**SR 873 over Lehigh River – Gap Bridge Repairs (C-J. Crawford)
Washington Township, Lehigh County and Lehigh Township, Northampton County
MPMS 107552 – est. let July 11, 2024**

- 100% plans approved by Norfolk Southern March 19, 2024
- Final structure plans approved by District Bridge Engineer May 8, 2024
- Payment in process to finalize Temporary Construction Easement with Norfolk Southern
- GP-11 Permit approved by DEP March 19, 2024
- Final PS&E submitted to Contract Management May 16, 2024
- Project awaiting final ROW clearance for advertisement for construction

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY
BRIDGE STATUS REPORT
MEETING JUNE 12, 2024**

Fifth Street (SR 1029) Bridge Replacement (C-C. Frey)

Whitehall Township, Lehigh County

MPMS 94873 – est. let April 1, 2027

- Phase I ESAs approved May 7, 2023; phase II/III ESAs will be completed in Final Design
- Design team and DUA have determined the Northampton Borough Municipal Authority (NBMA) waterline will need to be relocated due to proximity to the proposed Fifth Street Bridge abutment foundations, coordination with NBMA to be initiated in May 2024
- TS&L approved on January 24, 2024
- Supplement to implement FHWA-mandated environmental justice population communication strategies and expanded environmental clearance documentation needs due to the number of proposed relocations just executed
- Public plans display posted on District website May 8 through June 7, 2024; both positive and negative feedback received via questionnaire
- Several Whitehall Township officials provided positive feedback on the project and have verbally committed to maintaining the sidewalk on the bridge; a maintenance agreement will be prepared for official signature

Lower Saucon Road (SR 2001) over E Branch of Saucon Creek (C-J. Crawford)

Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County

MPMS 119940 – est let December 10, 2026

- Phase I Bog Turtle Habitat study completed
- Line, Grade, and Typical submitted for approval March 27, 2024
- Archeological testing and Historic Resource Survey Forms completed and submitted to Cultural Resource Professionals May 15, 2024
- TS&L and H&H investigations underway

Church Road (SR 1016) over Trib to Little Bushkill Creek (C-E. Berg)

Plainfield Township, Northampton County

MPMS 12106 – est let June 10, 2027

- Waterways and Wetlands Surveys complete
- Design Coordination Meeting held May 16, 2024

Raubsville Road (SR 2006) over Freys Run (M. Patel)

Williams Township, Northampton County

MPMS 109914 – est. let September 26, 2024

- Consultant is advancing final roadway plan sets
- Final Traffic Control Plan submitted for Traffic Engineer signature April 23, 2024
- SPM approved May 17, 2024
- Final Traffic Control Plan submitted for Traffic Engineer signature
- The final structure plan has gone through reviews at the District, and we have received a comment April 5, 2024, preparing the set for resubmission
- ROW acquisition is on-schedule
- Water permit resubmitted on March 19, 2024, RULD and MPT submitted for District review April 12, 2024.
- Received Consistency Letter from Northampton County Conservation District
- Utility coordination is ongoing

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY
BRIDGE STATUS REPORT
MEETING JUNE 12, 2024**

**Fish Hatchery Road (SR 2010) over Little Lehigh Creek (C-M. McGuire)
City of Allentown, Lehigh County
MPMS 119933 – est let July 29, 2027**

- Structural analysis of existing beams and piers completed
- Historic Resource Survey forms completed
- Line and Grade in progress
- Preliminary Traffic Control including pedestrians in progress

**Powder Valley Road (SR 2025) over Indian Creek (C-J. Crawford)
Upper Milford Township, Lehigh County
MPMS 109237 – est. let March 13, 2025**

- Meeting held with DEP February 6, 2024, DEP is reviewing 2D H&H results
- TS&L and subsequent preliminary engineering submissions to be submitted after meetings

**Hecktown Road (SR 2027) Bridge over Route 22 (C-R. Himmelwright)
Bethlehem Township, Northampton County
MPMS 89614 – est. let August 21, 2025**

- Right of Way acquisition in progress
- Final MPT Plans in progress
- Final Structure Foundation Report in progress

**Farmersville Road (SR 2029) Bridge over Route 22 (C-M. McGuire)
Bethlehem Township, Northampton County
MPMS 71707 – est. let August 22, 2024**

- Right of Way acquisition is nearly complete
- Utility re-designs in progress
- Structure Foundation Report completed
- Final MPT and Signing and Pavement Markings approved
- Final Plan Check approved

**Limeport Pike (SR 2029) over Hosensack Creek (C-M. Fallon)
Lower Milford Township, Lehigh County
MPMS 119936 – est let April 22, 2027**

- Phase I Bog Turtle Study submitted May 10, 2024

**Meadows Road (SR 7210) Bridge (C-M. McGuire)
Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County
MPMS 12286 – actual let February 29, 2024**

- Awarded to Kinsley Construction, LLC on March 8, 2024
- NTP issued on May 21, 2024
- Anticipated completion is June 17, 2026

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY
BRIDGE STATUS REPORT
MEETING JUNE 12, 2024**

**South Walnut Street (SR 7408) Bridge over Trout Creek (C-J. Besz)
Slatington Borough, Lehigh County
MPMS 94680 – est. let December 12, 2024**

- ROW acquisition continues
- The 60% Constructability Review was submitted on April 26, 2024 and returned accepted as noted
- The Phase II ESA and WIP were submitted and returned; revisions are ongoing
- The Pre-Final MPT was submitted, reviewed, and returned; revisions are ongoing
- The Structure Foundation Report was accepted
- Development of the Final Structure Plans, Highway Lighting Plans, the Pavement Marking & Signing Plan is ongoing
- Utility coordination continues
- Drainage design was completed
- Preparation of the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan is ongoing
- Section 106 Consulting Party coordination for development of mitigation measures continues

**LEHIGH VALLEY TRANSPORTATION STUDY
BRIDGE STATUS REPORT
MEETING JUNE 12, 2024**

ACRONYM REFERENCE	
ACM/LBP	ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL / LEAD BASED PAINT
ACOE	ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
ADA	AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT
BRPA	BRIDGE AND ROADWAY PROGRAMMATIC AGREEMENT
CBR	CONSTANT BIT RATE
CE	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
CEE	CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION EVALUATION
CO	CENTRAL OFFICE
CRP	CULTURAL RESOURCES PROFESSIONAL
DCNR	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DEP	DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
DFV	DESIGN FIELD VIEW
DO	DISTRICT OFFICE
E&S	EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION
ESA	ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT
FD	FINAL DESIGN
FHWA	FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
GP	GENERAL PERMIT
H&H	HYDROLOGIC AND HYDRAULIC
HOP	HIGHWAY OCCUPANCY PERMIT
HRSF	HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY FORM
JD	JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATION
JPA	JOINT PERMIT AGREEMENT
L&G	LINE AND GRADE
LCCD	LEHIGH COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
LGTS	LINE, GRADE AND TYPICAL SECTION
MPT	MAINTENANCE AND PROTECTION OF TRAFFIC
NOITE	NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
NPDES	NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
NTP	NOTICE TO PROCEED
PHMC	PA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION
PNDI	PENNSYLVANIA NATURAL DIVERSITY INVENTORY
POA	POINT OF ACCESS
PS&E	PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATE
ROW	RIGHT OF WAY
RSGER	RECONNAISSANCE SOILS AND GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING REPORT
SEPS	SUBSURFACE EXPLORATION PLANNING SUBMISSION
SFV	SCOPE AND FIELD VIEW
SHPO	STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
SPMP	SIGNING AND PAVEMENT MARKING PLAN
SUE	SUBSURFACE UTILITY ENGINEERING
T&E	THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES COORDINATION
TCP	TRAFFIC CONTROL PLAN
TIF	TECHNICALLY INFEASIBILITY FORM
TS&L	TYPE, SIZE AND LOCATION
USFWS	UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE