



### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #15**

Visible changes are now apparent at the train station. The construction trailers have been removed and work on the yard is progressing. The building is coming back to life due to the efforts of carpenters, plumbers, painters, electricians, iron workers, excavators, Amtrak personnel and tile setters. Walls and ceilings inside are being restored and the bathrooms tiled. Work to clean and re-point the exterior of the building continues. Staff is developing a request for proposals for possible uses for the building once the project is complete.

The parking lot was finished this month and is seeing active use. Arrangements for long-term and overflow parking are being finalized. The passenger and pedestrian walkway has been redirected to allow work to continue on landscaping and the bus loop through the property. Please watch for directional signage to safely walk the construction area. The glass and stone panels on the north side platform have been installed, and future track outages are expected to accommodate installation of the canopy roof.

We thank you for your cooperation during this important project.

8/31/10



### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #14**

Work at the train station continues to progress according to schedule. Wilson Avenue parking lot improvements are close to completion and it is expected that the lot will reopen to daily travelers in early August. As overnight parking will be prohibited at that location, train riders needing overnight parking accommodations will continue to be able to use the Sycamore Square lot on Masonic Drive on a temporary basis until the Borough is able to make permanent arrangements for long-term and overflow parking. Again, we ask that any train riders using the Sycamore Square location please take care to park only in the areas designated for temporary train station parking.

Progress continues inside the building as plaster is patched and woodwork refinished. The construction trailers have been removed from the site, and the stone walking path to the platforms will soon be relocated to allow work to continue in the yard outside the station building. There will continue to be periodic track outages to accommodate construction trackside. Please take notice of signage directing riders to the appropriate platforms.

As always, your patience and understanding during the construction phase is appreciated.

8/2/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #13**

The parking lot improvements continue with anticipated installation of lighting, curbing and sidewalks. Grading is complete and storm water facilities are in place. The lot will be paved with the final improvements. The schedule for the parking lot improvements has been extended through August to accommodate the remaining work. We remind train riders that temporary alternate parking is available at the Sycamore Square location on Masonic Drive. Please be sure to park only in the areas designated for temporary train station parking.

In addition to the parking lot, track outages continue to accommodate the installation of the pre-cast concrete platform planking and the installation of lighting. Inside the station building, plaster patching is complete and is drying and curing in preparation of painting. Sanding and sealing of all stained woodwork in the station will soon begin. All windows except those on the east and west gable ends have been removed and taken to a glass shop for repair.

We appreciate the cooperation and patience of commuters during this construction time.

7/2/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #12**

The train station parking lot remains closed as the stormwater management system is installed, rocks are removed, curb and sidewalk is put in place and final paving occurs. Signage directs commuters to temporary alternate parking at the Sycamore Square location on Masonic Drive. (Riders are asked to park only in the areas designated for temporary train station parking.) Installation of the new slate roof on the station is now complete, and work continues on the north

elevator shaft. Lead glass windows and sashes will be removed from re-glazing and rehabilitation before being returned and reinstalled. A track outage on the north side (west bound) is anticipated toward the end of June to allow installation of platform planking and steel canopy. Look for signs directing westbound travelers to the appropriate track once this work begins.

6/1/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #11**

#### **\* IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR AMTRAK COMMUTERS\***

As you know, the train station parking lot on Wilson Avenue closed this week to accommodate improvements necessary for the train station renovation project. In the interim, Amtrak passengers are directed to temporary alternate parking at Sycamore Square on Masonic Drive. Commuters are reminded to park only in the areas at Sycamore Square designated for temporary train station overflow parking.

On Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup> the business located at Sycamore Square will be having an event for its customers. As a general rule and on May 20<sup>th</sup> specifically, we request that train riders be mindful of business activities at Sycamore Square and help keep the parking spaces near the office available for customers. Please be sure to allow yourself enough time to park and still catch your train as it may take a few minutes to walk from the parking area. We greatly appreciate your cooperation and the partnership Sycamore Square at Masonic Village has extended to us during the construction project.

5/19/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #10**

#### **\* NOTICE \***

**Improvements to the train station parking lot begin on Monday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. The parking lot at Wilson Avenue will be closed for approximately two months beginning May 17<sup>th</sup> for this construction to occur. Parking lot improvements include the installation of the stormwater management system, the removal of rocks, electric work, installation of curbs, and paving. Temporary alternate train station parking is available at the Sycamore Square location on Masonic Drive. Please park only in the areas designated for temporary train station parking.**

Improvements at the Train Station are rapidly taking shape. The slate roof replacement is complete on the north side of the station building and work has begun on the south side roof and on the canopy roof of the tunnel. Intermittent track outages, although expected to be minimal, will continue through June to allow for installation of precast concrete and lighting for the platforms. Please take note of signage posted at the platform steps for direction regarding which tracks are in service each day. Elevator shaft work continues, and an opening has been cut through the 3' thick tunnel wall to accommodate for the elevator service. Water service has been

installed inside the station building and lighting and HVAC systems are being installed. Again, we appreciate your patience and understanding as construction progresses.

5/6/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #9**

The train station renovation project remains on schedule. Demolition of low-level platforms is complete. Track outages will remain necessary as construction of the new platforms progress. Please watch for signage directing passengers to the appropriate platform on a daily basis. Work in the station building continues. Lead paint has been removed inside the building and drywall installation and plastering has begun. The tower has been given a new slate roof and concrete floor, and the old elevator has been moved to the upper level where it will be permanently secured. Parking lot improvements, including the installation of storm water management facilities, are expected to begin in the coming months and continue through the summer. Temporary overflow parking remains available at the Sycamore Square parking lot off Masonic Drive. Signage directing passengers to the approved parking areas has been installed. Thank you again for your continued cooperation and patience as the project moves forward.

3/31/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #8**

There has been a lot of activity at the train station over recent days and weeks, and work continues to progress on schedule. A section of the new southbound platform will be in service beginning Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Access to the new elevated platform is gained by temporary stairs located trackside at the walkway on Masonic Drive. To facilitate shoring operations and accommodate ongoing low-level platform demolition work, track outages have been scheduled on the northbound side Monday through Friday from March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 7:00 a.m. and ending at 4:30 p.m. During that time, both northbound and southbound trains will shift to the southbound platform for departures and arrivals. Your cooperation and patience throughout this project is appreciated.

2/26/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #7**

A section of the new northbound platform of the Elizabethtown train station will be in service beginning Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. (Riders should check the Amtrak schedule for Monday service as it is a holiday). A section of the new southbound platform is expected to be in service the beginning of March. Temporary stairs to the new northbound platform are located trackside at the Wilson Avenue parking lot. When the new section of the southbound platform opens it will be serviced by temporary stairs at the walkway on Masonic Drive. Riders are advised that there will be intermittent track outages during most of the month of March for demolition of the

existing platforms being replaced. Please watch for signage directing you to the appropriate platform for your travels.

2/12/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #6**

Work on the new train station is progressing on schedule. Estimates are that a section of the new northbound platform will be open mid February with a section of the southbound platform following in mid-March. Train riders should watch for signage directing them to temporary platform stairways once the new platforms are in service.

Lights were installed in late January on the northbound platform. The next track outage (south side) is scheduled for February 1 and 2 when lighting will be installed on the southbound platform. Railing installation will occur prior to opening the platforms.

Electric panels and electric supply in the Station's basement is proceeding. The roofing contractor has removed the existing slate roof on the Station and the north walkway. Sewer and water lines have been installed and layout for plumbing inside the station has begun.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and patience.

1/29/10

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Project Update #5**

Track outages are in effect for the north side platform from January 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> for the installation of platform decking for the newly extended platform. The time period for the outage will follow the same schedule – roughly 7:30 am to 4:00 pm on a daily basis. Signs will be posted to direct you to the proper platform during the outage. The south side platform decking installation is scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup>. All of the work is weather permitting. Once the decking has been put in place and the temporary stairs erected, then work will proceed on the main portions of the existing platform.

Work continues inside the train station building. The hazardous materials have been successfully abated. The new floor in the basement of the building has been poured and work is proceeding to shore the floor joists for the first floor. Roofing work will continue with the installation of a completely new slate roof that will match the former roof in style and construction.

**PARKING NOTE:** The Borough and Susquehanna Wagman Associates have signed an agreement that will permit riders to use the rear of the Sycamore Square commercial development for temporary parking during the train station construction project. Ninety spaces have been set aside for use by riders provided that the riders obey the designated parking areas and respect the property. Signs will be erected that specify the areas that are designated for temporary parking (those spaces closest to Bainbridge Street behind the vacant commercial

properties). Please adhere to these signs once installed. You may begin parking in this lot as of today. Also, two hour parking signs will be installed on Masonic Drive in front of the commercial properties to preclude daily parking by riders. We encourage you to be courteous and respectful of the neighborhood as we continue with the construction project. Utilizing the parking spaces in front of the Sycamore Square development impacts the customers and staff of the tenant occupying the building closest to the train station. The Borough will be responsible for snow plowing in the lot during the construction period. Vehicles and items in the vehicles are the sole responsibility of the owners and neither of Susquehanna Wagman Associates nor the Borough.

Thank you for your continued cooperation during the construction. Work is progressing on schedule and we look forward to significant progress in the months ahead.

1/4/10

### **SPECIAL NOTICE --- Elizabethtown Train Station Project**

Please be advised that we were notified this morning that a track outage will take place tomorrow, Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> between the hours of 9:30am and 4:30 pm. The outage will allow the contractor to pour the concrete walls for the north side of the platform. This will be a one day outage. Follow the signs to enter the proper platform. All trains will operate on the existing schedule.

A second track outage is planned for Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> to allow the contractor to pour the concrete walls for the south side platform. While Amtrak officials are still reviewing the request, we expect that it will be approved. This track outage will not affect the train schedule and will be for one day only during the times as stated above.

Thank you for your continued cooperation. Happy holidays.

12/16/09

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Rehabilitation Project – Update #4**

Work resumed at the train station on Wednesday after a holiday break for the contractor. All of the shoring work for phase one has been completed. There will be no need for track outages until after the Christmas holiday. The water, sewer and electric service trenching has been completed as well. Conduit was set in place for the gas service to the train station building, but UGI Utilities has not performed the work as of this date. The trailer for the construction management firm was set in place in front of the station this past week. Hazardous materials abatement will conclude inside the station building once the proper permits have been received for the disposal of these materials.

In the weeks ahead, additional site storm sewer work will continue. The footings for the temporary steps on both sides of the platform have been poured. Weather permitting, the new slate roof on the building should be installed before the end of the year. Demolition of the exterior piers on the platform will be performed in December. The Borough and the construction

manager are fielding shop drawings and submittals on a routine basis on a host of items for the project. All parties, including our contractor and Amtrak, are communicating effectively and coordinating the work to improve the overall project schedule.

The Borough has provided Amtrak with the architectural renderings for the project to display in the kiosks on the platform. For those of you who did not get the opportunity to see these views of the new platform during the open houses, it will give you a glimpse of the finished project. The next track outage is planned for the week between Christmas and New Years Day for the installation of the platform planks on the north side. Please adhere to the signs which will direct you to the proper platform during this track switch.

The next update will be in the new year. Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation.

12/2/09

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Rehabilitation Project – Update #3**

On Tuesday, October 27, 2009, track outages will begin at the Elizabethtown Train Station. Amtrak is permitting work to install the sheeting and shoring materials in preparation for the construction of the new platforms during the hours of 7:30am to 4pm. Both the Borough and contractor, Lobar, Inc., are pleased that Amtrak has allowed this work to be performed during the day which will result in a shorter time period for this portion of the phase one construction work. Installing the sheeting and shoring during the day will also lead to less evening disruption for residents as the work involved is quite loud. Signage will be prominently placed to alert riders which platform they are to access to meet their regularly scheduled train. Amtrak personnel will divert trains outside of Elizabethtown to one track or the other for this work to commence.

On October 27<sup>th</sup> through November 6<sup>th</sup>, the north side (Wilson Avenue side) platform is planned to be out of service. The contractor will move to the south side (Masonic Drive side) platform from November 9<sup>th</sup> through November 20<sup>th</sup>. All of this work will be for piling installation. No track outages will be permitted from November 22<sup>nd</sup> through November 29<sup>th</sup>. Again, please keep in mind that you will be able to access your train as scheduled. Follow the signs for the location of the proper platform.

The work is weather dependent and this schedule may be adjusted if a rain event is encountered. We will not send out an email if the schedule is changed by a few days. We will notify riders if there is a significant change to the schedule detailed above. We continue to appreciate your patience and support during the construction.

10/21/09

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Rehabilitation Project – Update #2**

As riders have noted, the construction project is well underway after the first month. The majority of the work has centered on mobilization – setting up construction trailers, fencing the storage yard, excavating and laying conduit for electric, water and sewer to the site. In addition,

a portion of the new storm water system has been installed and two sides of the existing train station building have been cleaned. Some electrical and carpentry work has begun inside the station building. Once the subcontractor responsible for hazardous materials abatement has completed the removal process, then work will begin in earnest inside the station building. The hazardous materials, all of which were known prior to the bid and included in the contract, are three old transformers lying in the basement (PCB's) and asbestos in the caulking around the windows. The removal work is being coordinated by our construction manager in accordance with EPA standards and procedures. Storm sewer work and additional clearing and grubbing will continue throughout the month of October.

The Borough received a piece of good news on the sheeting and shoring portion of the project this past week – this part of the project is the most critical and sensitive construction element. Based upon documentation submitted by our contractor, Amtrak has agreed to track outages (one side only) during the day to allow for the installation of the sheeting and shoring. The installation of the steel channels to shore the bank during construction of the new platforms is slated as an eight week process. When the project was bid, the Borough was anticipating that the work would need to be completed in the early morning hours (from 11pm to 5am). Amtrak is in the process of approving the documentation submitted by Lobar, Inc. which will allow the work to be done in daylight hours. Amtrak crews will divert train traffic to one side or the other and will maintain the existing time schedule for train travel. We will keep riders informed of this work as the schedule needs to be approved at least 21 days in advance.

The Borough is also in the process of finalizing temporary parking arrangements on off-site lots for the duration of the project. We will keep you informed of the final details of these negotiations once they have been completed.

10/5/09

### **Elizabethtown Train Station Rehabilitation Project Update #1**

Construction begins!

The contractor's staging for the train station construction project will begin on Tuesday, September 1, 2009. The contractor, Lobar Inc. of Dillsburg, PA, will install fencing around the area near the building to secure construction equipment and materials. There will be No Parking in this area for the duration of the project. In addition, the last few rows of parking closest to the tracks are posted No Parking for September 1<sup>st</sup> for removal of trees and vegetation on the banks.

We understand that parking is in high demand at the station, and we will do our best to continue providing this service to the maximum level possible during construction. However, there will be times during the project that parking in sections of the main parking lot will be restricted to allow the contractor better access to areas of work such as tree removal, utility work, and parking lot improvements. We are exploring options for temporary additional parking sites within walking distance of the train station and hope to have these alternatives secured in the near future. In the meantime, we highly recommend that during construction train riders remove their vehicles from the parking lot daily and not leave their vehicles parked in the parking lot or the vicinity of the train station for a long term basis. Please allow extra time in your schedule should there be a need to navigate construction obstacles in your travels.

We will do our best to keep users of the train station informed on the progress of construction and plan to provide monthly updates via email and our website. More frequent notifications may be distributed should issues regarding access to the station or other information require. We anticipate the construction and related improvements to take approximately 18 months.

We appreciate the patience and excitement the community and current train riders at the Elizabethtown station have demonstrated toward this project. We are pleased that the project has been awarded full funding, and we can now move forward with this long desired and significant economic development project for Elizabethtown.

8/31/09