



Memorandum

To: Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manager
Mayor Jensen and Members of the Borough Assembly

From: Chris Cotta, Public Works Director

Re: New Hospital Project – Waiving of Mud Dump Fees

Date: 05-01-24

Preparation of the new hospital site has resulted in a large quantity of waste soil – approximately 95,400 bank cubic yards - being hauled to the Borough’s mud dump near the airport quarry. With a correction factor added in to account for expansion of the material once it has been excavated and loaded out, the total volume of waste soil delivered to the Borough’s mud dump will be approximately 124,000 truck cubic yards. Although the impacts of this discharge are significant, PMC’s contractors have put quite a bit of work into mitigation efforts at the mud dump to help accommodate all the mud being emplaced at the site. There have been mud flows into the overflow cell that was constructed during the last series of airport expansion projects, and near overflows in a couple of other spots however the contractor has thus far been responsible and responsive in dealing with these issues.

Normally, we charge \$1.50 per cubic yard of waste soil discharged into the mud dump and if we were to assign these charges to the hospital project, it would result in approximately \$186,000 in revenue that would accrue to the Borough’s General Fund. However, it has been expressed at the Assembly level that the intent of the Borough is to forgive these fees as a local contribution to the hospital project. Previously, the Assembly voted to forgive mud dump fees for any offsite work – primarily related to access corridor and utility upgrades, however there has not yet been a vote to write off mud dump fees for the site work related to the main hospital campus and parking areas, which constitute the majority of the waste soil that will be generated by the project.

Although waiving mud dump fees means giving up a significant amount of revenue to the Borough, the benefits to the community from the new hospital – both during construction, and especially after - will be significant. The construction phase of the hospital project has also had some direct benefits to Public Works: 1)Re-development of the Borough’s rock quarry, which has saved the Borough at least \$100,000 in quarry development costs; and 2)Related improvements to the mud dump haul road and mud dump infrastructure also have significant value to the Borough, likely another \$50-60K.

With the above considerations in mind, Public Works has no objections to waiving the mud dump fees for the hospital project in its entirety.

Public Works Department

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