



October 12, 2023

**ELECTRONICALLY FILED**

Rosemary Chiavetta, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to replace the existing bridge where West Lackawanna Avenue crosses above the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation, DOT Number 265 971 V in the City of Scranton, Lackawanna County and the allocation of costs incident thereto.**

Dear Secretary Chiavetta:

Enclosed for filing, please find the Application of the Department of Transportation.

A copy of this Application and Exhibits has been served upon the parties in the Certificate of Service to the Application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah J. Fenton".

Sarah J. Fenton  
Grade Crossing Engineer  
Engineering District 4-0  
Department of Transportation

Attachments

CC: Parties of Record

William Sinick, P.E., Rail Safety Engineering Section PUC, 3rd Floor, CKB  
Michael Grantner P.E., Senior Project Engineer, STV Engineering  
Summer Koziel, P.E., Assistant Liaison Engineer, PennDOT

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to replace the existing bridge where West Lackawanna Avenue crosses above the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation, DOT Number 265 971 V in the City of Scranton, Lackawanna County, and the allocation of costs incident thereto.

Application  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

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**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true copy of the foregoing document upon the participants listed below, in accordance with the requirements of 52 Pa. Code § 1.54.

D. Shawn Starling, P.E.  
Senior Engineer Public Improvements  
Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation  
650 West Peachtree NW – Box 45  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
404-527-2536  
[Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com](mailto:Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com)

Michael L. Grantner, P.E.  
Senior Project Manager  
STV  
1818 Market Street. Suite 2300  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19103  
215-832-3556  
[michael.grantner@stvinc.com](mailto:michael.grantner@stvinc.com)

Robert Hoffer, P.E.  
Structural Engineer, Transportation  
AECOM  
100 Sterling Parkway  
Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17050  
717-795-8001  
[Robert.Hoffer@aecom.com](mailto:Robert.Hoffer@aecom.com)

Charlotte Krupa  
PPL Electric Utilities Corporation  
2 North Ninth Street  
Allentown, PA 18101-1179  
[cakrupa@pplweb.com](mailto:cakrupa@pplweb.com)

Jerry Notarianni, Chairperson  
Lackawanna County Commissioners  
123 Wyoming Avenue  
Scranton, Pa. 18503  
570-963-6800  
[notariannij@lackawannacounty.org](mailto:notariannij@lackawannacounty.org)

Verizon Pennsylvania Inc. (VER1)  
Attn: John Bayzick  
105 Monahan Avenue  
Dunmore, Pa. 18512  
570-342-6586  
[john.j.bayzick@verizon.com](mailto:john.j.bayzick@verizon.com)

The Honorable Paige Cognetti, Mayor  
City of Scranton  
340 N. Washington Street  
Scranton, Pa. 18503  
570-348-4100  
[scranton311@scrantonpa.gov](mailto:scranton311@scrantonpa.gov)

PA. American Water  
Scranton Sewer Division  
Attn. Jeremy Hull  
2500 Sanitary Drive  
Scranton, Pa. 18505  
570-614-3333  
[jeremy.hull@amwater.com](mailto:jeremy.hull@amwater.com)

Pennsylvania American Water (PAWC03)  
Attn. Jeremy Nelson  
2699 Stafford Avenue  
Scranton, Pa. 18507  
570-266-2031  
[jeremy.nelson@amwater.com](mailto:jeremy.nelson@amwater.com)

AT&T Corp. (ATT1)  
Attn. Mike Huddleston  
C/O Michael Baker Corp.  
100 Airside Drive  
Airside Business Park  
Moon Township, Pa. 15009  
724-495-4416  
[mhuddleston@mbakerintl.com](mailto:mhuddleston@mbakerintl.com)

Frontier Communications Corporation  
Attn. Al Zuba  
300 E Laird St  
Wilkes Barre, PA 18702  
[Albert.zuba@ftr.com](mailto:Albert.zuba@ftr.com)

Comcast Cable Communications  
Management, LLC.  
Attn. Ronald Pawlowski  
1 Comcast Way  
Duryea, PA 18642-1114  
[Ronald\\_Pawlowski@cable.comcast.com](mailto:Ronald_Pawlowski@cable.comcast.com)

Sprint  
Attn. Wesley Carpenter  
484 Williamsport Pike  
Box 113  
Martinsburg, WV. 25404  
304-262-2810  
[Wesley.carpenter@ericsson.com](mailto:Wesley.carpenter@ericsson.com)

Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> Day of October 2023



John E. Pfeiffer  
PA Department of Transportation  
District Office 4-0  
55 Keystone Industrial Park  
Dunmore, PA 18512-1516  
570-963-4995  
[jopfeiffer@pa.gov](mailto:jopfeiffer@pa.gov)

**BEFORE THE  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Application of the Department of Transportation of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for approval to replace the existing bridge where West Lackawanna Avenue crosses above the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation, DOT Number 265 971 V in the City of Scranton, Lackawanna County, and the allocation of costs incident thereto.

**Application**  
Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_

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**APPLICATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION**

Applicant, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, files this Application pursuant to the provisions of 66 Pa.C.S § 2702 and 52 Pa. Code § 5.13 for the replacement of the public above grade crossing where West Lackawanna Avenue crosses above the tracks of Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation at DOT Number 265 971 V in the City of Scranton, Lackawanna County as described below:

1. The name and address of Applicant are Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Susan Hazelton P.E., Assistant District Executive, Engineering District 4-0, 55 Keystone Industrial Park, Dunmore, PA 18512.
  
2. The name and address of attorney for the Applicant are Donald J. Smith, Chief Counsel, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Transportation, Office of Chief Counsel, P.O. Box 8212, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212.

3. The Applicant is an agency of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, organized and existing under the Administrative Code of 1929, 71 P.S. § 511, et seq. and generally 36 P.S. § 670 - 401 et seq., filing this Application on its behalf and on behalf of the City of Scranton as evidenced by the resolution dated June 22, 2021 which is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “A”.

4. The names and addresses of the persons, parties and entities concerned in, or affected by the proposed construction, to the best of the Applicant’s knowledge, are shown in the certificate of service. In addition to those served, the Applicant requests that the following also receive service of all documents in this matter:

Mark J. Chappell, P.E., Chief  
Right of Way, Utilities and Grade Crossing  
Division  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
PO Box 3362  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3362  
[marchappel@pa.gov](mailto:marchappel@pa.gov)

Karen L. Cummings, Esquire  
Counsel for Applicant  
Office of Chief of Counsel  
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation  
PO Box 8212  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8212  
[kcummings@pa.gov](mailto:kcummings@pa.gov)

5. The Applicant is seeking approval to replace the superstructure of the existing, locally owned bridge carrying West Lackawanna Avenue over the track(s) of Norfolk Southern Railway Company at Mile Post HA-671.01. A Location Map is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “B”. A copy of the Type, Size, and Location Plans is attached hereto and marked as Exhibit “C”.

6. The Applicant is aware of prior Public Utility Commission proceedings for this crossing at Docket Number A-00111036.

7. The average daily traffic for West Lackawanna Avenue at this crossing is 13,583 vehicles with 5% trucks.
8. The estimated total cost for the project subject to the application and described above is \$10,000,000. It is anticipated that the funding for the project will be federal funds and state funds.
9. This project is necessary and proper for the safety and convenience of the public.
10. A conference of all parties of interest should be held to discuss the proposed alteration.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Public Utility Commission approve this application:

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Hazelton, P.E.  
Assistant District Executive  
Engineering District 4-0  
Department of Transportation  
55 Keystone Industrial Park  
Dunmore, PA 18512  
Phone (570) 963-4045  
Fax (570) 963-4949  
shazelton@pa.gov

Dated: October 11, 2023

2021

**AUTHORIZING PENNDOT TO REQUEST RAILROAD CROSSING UPGRADES WITH THE STRUCTURE REPLACEMENT OF WEST LACKAWANNA AVENUE OVER NORFOLK SOUTHERN FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION.**

WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), with the cooperation of the City of Scranton, would like to replace the West Lackawanna Avenue bridge that crosses the tracks of the Norfolk Southern Railway Company in the City of Scranton (Scranton PA BR1111693 OHB Lackawanna Ave. HA-671.01). Please refer to a true and correct copy of the correspondence dated May 21, 2021 from Sarah J. Fenton, Grade Crossing Engineer for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference thereto; and

WHEREAS, the West Lackawanna Avenue structure over Norfolk Southern is a public roadway under the jurisdiction of the City of Scranton; and

WHEREAS, in order for the improvements to the approach roadway warning devices to be made pertaining to the railroad crossing, such improvements must be submitted to the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission ("PUC") by and through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation ("PennDOT");

WHEREAS, the replacement of the deteriorated structure will improve public safety and provide a long-lasting new bridge. Please refer to Exhibit "A."

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SCRANTON that:**

1. PennDOT is authorized on behalf and for the City of Scranton to request approval of the PUC to replace the West Lackawanna Avenue Structure over Norfolk Southern railway, including the four (4) retaining walls along the two (2) approach roadways, including, but not limited to, appropriate warning devices at the railroad crossing at the structure of West Lackawanna Avenue Structure over Norfolk Southern railway of in the City of Scranton.
2. PennDOT is authorized on behalf and for the City of Scranton to issue Notice to Proceed letters to the Railroad for design and/or construction at the railroad crossing at West Lackawanna Avenue Structure over Norfolk Southern railway in the City of Scranton.

**SECTION 1.** If any section, clause, provision or portion of this Resolution shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect any other section, clause, provision or portion of this Resolution so long as it remains legally enforceable minus the invalid portion. The City reserves the right to amend this Resolution or

**CERTIFIED COPY**

*[Signature]*  
City Clerk

referred to Committee on June 15, 2021

PUBLIC SAFETY

City Clerk

Scranton, Pa. June 22, 2021

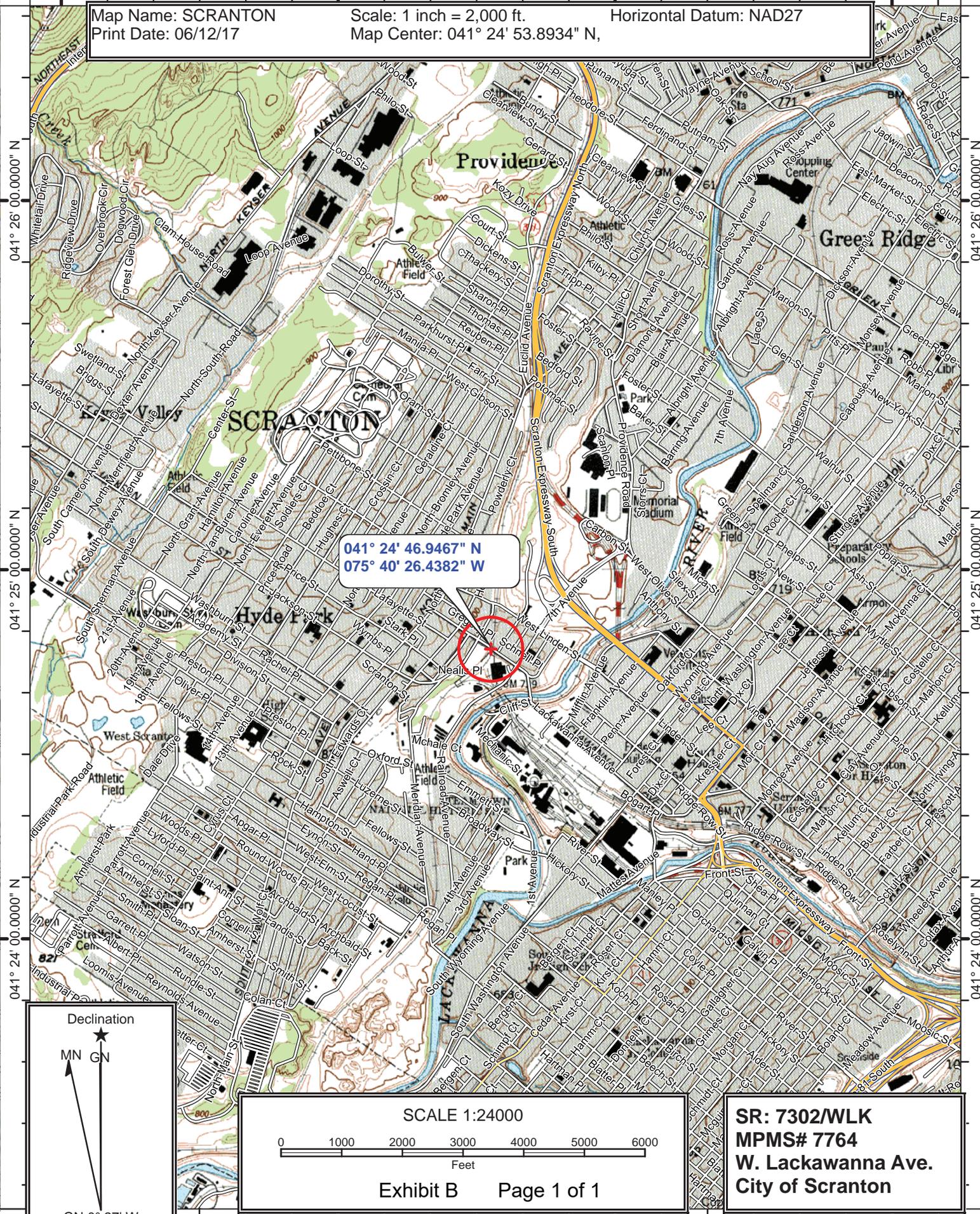
Committee on Public Safety reports favorably on the within resolution.

Chairman

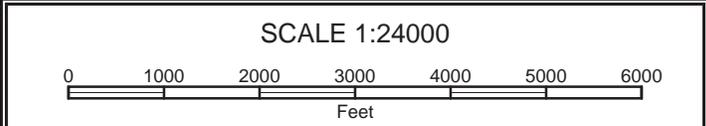
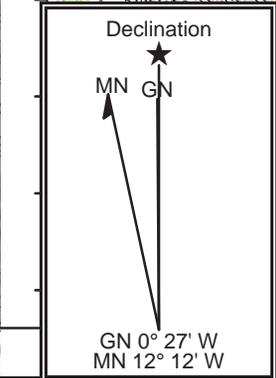


42' 00.0000" W      075° 41' 00.0000" W      075° 40' 00.0000" W      075° 39' 00.0000" W

Map Name: SCRANTON      Scale: 1 inch = 2,000 ft.      Horizontal Datum: NAD27  
Print Date: 06/12/17      Map Center: 041° 24' 53.8934" N,



041° 24' 46.9467" N  
075° 40' 26.4382" W



**SR: 7302/WLK**  
**MPMS# 7764**  
**W. Lackawanna Ave.**  
**City of Scranton**

075° 41' 00.0000" W      075° 40' 00.0000" W      075° 39' 00.0000" W





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**VERIFICATION**

I, John E. Pfeiffer, District 4-0 Grade Crossing Engineer, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. §4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Date: October 12, 2023



John E. Pfeiffer  
District 4-0 Grade Crossing Engineer  
55 Keystone Industrial Park  
Dunmore, PA 18512-1516  
570-963-4995  
[jopfeiffer@pa.gov](mailto:jopfeiffer@pa.gov)