

COREY O'CONNOR  
MAYOR



JEFF SKALICAN  
DIRECTOR

CITY OF PITTSBURGH  
**DEPARTMENT OF MOBILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE**  
CITY-COUNTY BUILDING

May 22, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING:

Matthew Homsher, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
P.O. Box 3265  
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

**Re: PUC Application Docket No. A-2025-3054586**

**Application of the City of Pittsburgh for approval to alter the public crossing (DOT 507 484 V) by the rehabilitation of the existing bridge where South Negley Avenue crosses, above grade, two (2) tracks of Norfolk Southern Railway Company and M.L.K. Jr. East Busway of the Port Authority of Allegheny County, located in the City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, the allocation of costs incident thereto and exemption from the Commission's minimum overhead clearance requirements pursuant to Title 52 Pennsylvania Code, Section 33.121**

Dear Secretary Homsher,

The City of Pittsburgh ("City") wishes to memorialize its understanding with Norfolk Southern ("NS") by which the City will be assuming maintenance responsibilities for all substructure units of the South Negley Avenue Bridge in conjunction with NS's conditional approval to a 21'-6" minimum vertical clearance envelope extending 8'-0" from centerline of track on either side of both tracks, as further set forth and depicted in the attached enclosed correspondence and plan documents.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Jeff Skalican, Director of the City of Pittsburgh's Department of Mobility and Infrastructure, at [jeff.skalican@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:jeff.skalican@pittsburghpa.gov) or Zachary Workman, Deputy Chief Engineer, at [zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov).

Sincerely

  
JEFF SKALICAN (May 22, 2026 11:36:47 EDT)

Jeff Skalican  
Director

Enclosures

cc: Parties of Record  
Jeff Skalican / Eric Setzler / Zack Workman



Norfolk Southern Corporation  
Design & Construction Department  
650 West Peachtree Street NW, Box 45  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

**Alan B. Johnson, P.E.**  
Chief Engineer  
404/213-5055 (office & mobile)  
Email: alan.johnson@nscorp.com

**SUBJECT: NS Response to Email of Project Commitments for South Negley Ave Bridge and 28<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge**

Atlanta – March 4, 2026

Mr. Zachary Workman, PE  
Acting Chief Engineer  
City of Pittsburgh  
Department of Mobility and Infrastructure

Dear Mr. Workman:

Norfolk Southern (“NS”) is in receipt of your email dated November 20, 2025, attached as Exhibit A, to formalize certain commitments related to the proposed vertical clearance envelope of the South Negley Avenue Bridge (DOT # 507484V; 40.456292, -79.933476) and the maintenance responsibilities for the substructure of the South Negley Avenue Bridge and the substructure of the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge (DOT # 507476D; 40.455867, -79.973212).

In the spirit of cooperation with the City, NS will give a conditional approval to a 21’-6” minimum vertical clearance envelope extending 8’-0” from centerline of track on either side of both tracks as shown in Exhibit B and in accordance with the information in Exhibit A. NS’s conditional approval is contingent upon the following:

1. The City shall inform the PUC, in writing, that it agrees to assume maintenance responsibilities for all substructure units of the South Negley Avenue Bridge, which shall be memorialized in a Secretarial Letter in the PUC proceeding docketed to No. A-2025-3054586 for the rehabilitation of the South Negley Avenue Bridge. This change in responsibilities will serve to negate maintenance responsibility for the bridge substructure assigned to Consolidated Rail Corporation in paragraph 28 of the Opinion and Order entered June 5, 1992, in the consolidated proceedings docketed to A-100490, A-102586, A-100994 and M-870143.
2. The City shall inform the PUC, in writing, that it agrees to assume maintenance responsibilities for all substructure units of the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, which shall be memorialized in a Secretarial Letter in the PUC application proceeding to be filed by the City for the rehabilitation of the 28<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge. This change in responsibilities will serve to negate



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maintenance responsibility for the north abutment and piers of the bridge assigned to Consolidated Rail Corporation in paragraph 11 of the Opinion and Order entered June 5, 1992, in the consolidated proceedings docketed to A-100490, A-102586, A-100994 and M-870143.

Sincerely,

Alan B. Johnson, PE  
Chief Engineer

**Marks, Jayne**

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**From:** Workman, Zachary <zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 20, 2025 12:23 PM  
**To:** Starling, Shawn; Marks, Jayne  
**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin; Stephen Shadle; Rania Asbahan; Athanas, Bill; Rolley, Scott; Setzler, Eric; AMER-US-PA Philadelphia-NSGEC; NS-Worksite  
**Subject:** Re: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB - Task 792  
**Attachments:** 20250725 S NEGLEY RR CLEARANCES OPTION 1 PLAN AND PROFILE.pdf  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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[Report Suspicious](#)

Shawn,

Thank you again for making time this morning to discuss the Negley Avenue bridge project with us. We understand the railroad tries to plan for a wide range of contingencies far into the future before committing to site constraints on a project. We also understand it's in the City's interest to consolidate asset ownership for efficient maintenance of the bridge in the future.

With that in mind, the City is willing to take ownership and future maintenance responsibilities for the substructure on the Negley Avenue bridge as well as the 28th St Bridge which is two miles west of the subject structure and is also in preliminary engineering for a comprehensive rehabilitation. Currently, the railroad has responsibility for both abutments on the former, and all piers and the north abutment on the latter.

By committing to the future ownership of these assets, the City requests for Norfolk Southern to provide a specific envelope relative to the current tracks at which a minimum vertical clearance of 21'-6" must be maintained. Currently, our design consultant has assumed the envelope is to be measured 6'-0" from centerline of track based on Norfolk Southern's public improvement projects manual. From our review of the corresponding roadway profile, extending the envelope much beyond 6'-0" will have increasingly negative impacts on the adjacent utilities, properties, and pedestrian facilities.

Your consideration for minimizing these impacts is appreciated. Please let us know if you need any other information before NS can provide a specific offset for MVC.

Regards,  
-Zack

**Zachary Workman, PE, Deputy Chief Engineer**  
Department of Mobility and Infrastructure  
City County Building | Floor 3



414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Mobile: (412) 719-4338

Pronouns: he, him, his

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**From:** Starling, Shawn <Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 23, 2025 8:19 AM

**To:** Workman, Zachary <zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov>; Marks, Jayne <jayne.marks@aecom.com>

**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov>; Stephen Shadle <stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com>; Rania Asbahan <Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com>; Athanas, Bill <Vasilios.Athanas@wsp.com>; Rolley, Scott <scott.rolley@wsp.com>; Setzler, Eric <eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov>; Marks, Jayne <jayne.marks@aecom.com>; AMER-US-PA Philadelphia-NSGEC <NSGEC@aecom.com>; NS-Worksite <Worksite.NS@aecom.com>

**Subject:** RE: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB - Task 792

Zachary,

My availability is very limited and filling up quickly. ( Red )

Monday, November 17: 11AM-11:30

Tuesday, November 18: Any time after 1PM 1:00 to 1:30

Thursday, November 20: Any time before 2PM 10:00-11:00

Will the City of Pittsburgh be willing to accept maintenance responsibilities for abutments?

Jayne,

Please advise if the above dates work for you in red.

Thanks,

Shawn Starling, PE

Senior Engineer Public Improvements NS

States Covered: PA, NY, NJ, TN, MO, AL

---

**From:** Workman, Zachary <zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov>

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 22, 2025 5:10 PM

**To:** Starling, Shawn <Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com>

**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov>; Stephen Shadle <stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com>; Rania Asbahan <Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com>; Athanas, Bill <Vasilios.Athanas@wsp.com>; Rolley, Scott <scott.rolley@wsp.com>; Setzler, Eric <eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov>; Marks, Jayne <jayne.marks@aecom.com>; AMER-US-PA Philadelphia-NSGEC <NSGEC@aecom.com>; NS-Worksite <Worksite.NS@aecom.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Re: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB - Task 792

Good afternoon Shawn,

I'm following up to see if there any updates from Norfolk Southern on the evaluation of the vertical clearance.

I have some PTO the next few weeks, but upon my return the City is available to discuss the bridge maintenance agreement. Would any of the following times work for NS?

- Thursday, November 13: 10AM or 1PM
- Monday, November 17: 11AM
- Tuesday, November 18: Any time after 1PM
- Thursday, November 20: Any time before 2PM

Regards,  
-Zack



**Zachary Workman, PE, Deputy Chief Engineer**

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City County Building | Floor 3  
414 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
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**From:** Starling, Shawn <[Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com](mailto:Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 1, 2025 4:01 PM  
**To:** Workman, Zachary <[zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <[Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Stephen Shadle <[stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com)>; Rania Asbahan <[Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com)>; Athanas, Bill <[vasilios.athanas@wsp.com](mailto:vasilios.athanas@wsp.com)>; Rolley, Scott <[scott.rolley@wsp.com](mailto:scott.rolley@wsp.com)>; Setzler, Eric <[eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Marks, Jayne <[jayne.marks@aecom.com](mailto:jayne.marks@aecom.com)>; AMER-US-PA Philadelphia-NSGEC <[NSGEC@aecom.com](mailto:NSGEC@aecom.com)>; NS-Worksite <[Worksite.NS@aecom.com](mailto:Worksite.NS@aecom.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB - Task 792

Zack,

Norfolk Southern is still in the process of evaluating the vertical clearance requirements for this bridge.

We would like to have the discussions regarding amending the maintenance requirements for the abutments as soon as possible. Please let me know when the City will be ready to discuss.

Thanks,

Shawn Starling, P.E.  
Senior Engineer Public Improvements  
Norfolk Southern Railway Company  
Engineering - Design & Construction  
650 West Peachtree Street NW - Box 45  
Atlanta, GA 30308

States Covered: PA, NY, NJ, TN, MO, AL  
Phone (470) 463-6721

**From:** Workman, Zachary <[zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 15, 2025 5:55 PM  
**To:** Shawn Starling <[Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com](mailto:Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com)>; Marks, Jayne <[jayne.marks@aecom.com](mailto:jayne.marks@aecom.com)>; Fuhrman, Daniel <[Daniel.Fuhrman@aecom.com](mailto:Daniel.Fuhrman@aecom.com)>  
**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <[Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Stephen Shadle <[stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com)>; Rania Asbahan <[Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com)>; Athanas, Bill <[vasilios.athanas@wsp.com](mailto:vasilios.athanas@wsp.com)>; Rolley, Scott <[scott.rolley@wsp.com](mailto:scott.rolley@wsp.com)>; Setzler, Eric <[eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:eric.setzler@pittsburghpa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB

Hi Shawn,

I wanted to follow up on your review of Option 1 for how the minimum vertical clearance of the subject bridge is to be established.

Just to reiterate, all previous discussions around the feasibility of meeting a minimum vertical clearance during the bridge project was based on an assumption that it was measured relative to the tracks. Requiring 21'-6" MVC over the entirety of the railroad R/W would be extremely detrimental to the safety of those crossing over the bridge due to poor sight lines and steep grades.

Also, the City is open to discussing a modification to the existing agreement regarding maintenance of the abutments. However, we believe it would be more prudent to have the discussion once we have a better idea of the proposed scope of repairs. In the meantime, all preliminary design activities are all hinging on how the minimum vertical clearance is to be established. We would appreciate confirmation that we can proceed as outlined in my email, below.

Thank you,  
-Zack



**Zachary Workman, PE, Deputy Chief Engineer**  
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City County Building | Floor 3  
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**From:** Starling, Shawn <[Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com](mailto:Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 6, 2025 10:42 AM  
**To:** Workman, Zachary <[zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Marks, Jayne <[jayne.marks@aecom.com](mailto:jayne.marks@aecom.com)>; Fuhrman, Daniel <[daniel.fuhrman@aecom.com](mailto:daniel.fuhrman@aecom.com)>  
**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <[Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Stephen Shadle <[stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com)>; Rania Asbahan <[Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com)>; Athanas, Bill <[vasilios.athanas@wsp.com](mailto:vasilios.athanas@wsp.com)>; Rolley, Scott <[scott.rolley@wsp.com](mailto:scott.rolley@wsp.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB

Zachary,

Please confirm whether the City of Pittsburgh will be assuming responsibility for both abutments.

I will begin researching the feasibility of Option 1.

Thanks,  
Shawn Starling, PE  
Senior Engineer Public Improvements NS  
States Covered: PA, NY, NJ, TN, MO, AL

---

**From:** Workman, Zachary <[zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:zachary.workman@pittsburghpa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 5, 2025 5:58 PM  
**To:** Starling, Shawn <[Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com](mailto:Douglas.Starling@nscorp.com)>; Marks, Jayne <[jayne.marks@aecom.com](mailto:jayne.marks@aecom.com)>; Fuhrman, Daniel <[daniel.fuhrman@aecom.com](mailto:daniel.fuhrman@aecom.com)>  
**Cc:** Kramer, Corbin <[Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:Corbin.Kramer@pittsburghpa.gov)>; Stephen Shadle <[stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:stephen.shadle@cdrmaguire.com)>; Rania Asbahan <[Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com](mailto:Rania.Asbahan@cdrmaguire.com)>; Athanas, Bill <[vasilios.athanas@wsp.com](mailto:vasilios.athanas@wsp.com)>; Rolley, Scott <[scott.rolley@wsp.com](mailto:scott.rolley@wsp.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 21'-6" Vertical Clearance - Pittsburgh, PA - BR0028848 - PT-349.40 - South Negley Ave OHB

Hi Shawn,

Following the PUC meeting, we determined we need further clarification on where exactly the minimum vertical clearance is to be applied. Our consultant has prepared the following for reference:

Attached is a figure for the following minimum vertical clearance Options. As stated previously, if NSRR requires 21'-6" MVC at the face of the existing abutment, this would significantly impact the surrounding properties and the project would need re-evaluated.

- Option 1 - 21'-6" (NSRR Permission) MVC from CL outside track to the 6'-0" envelope (NSRR Design Criteria) – Plan & Profile

Justification for the anticipated envelope is also attached showing the following. We need clarification from Norfolk Southern in order to proceed with the design.

- PUC measures MVC from 4'-0" from centerline of track
- PennDOT measures MVC from 5'-6" from centerline of track
- NSRR measures MVC from 6'-0" from centerline of track

Also attached for reference is a photo from the tracks underneath the structure.

Note that in addition to the already steep grade of the roadway profile in order to facilitate adjacent driveway tie-ins, the substructure has a sloped concrete apron that would greatly impact measurement of the MVC at the face of the abutment.

Can you confirm if Option 1 is feasible?



Thank you!

-Zack



**Zachary Workman, PE, Acting Chief Engineer**

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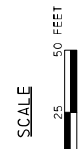
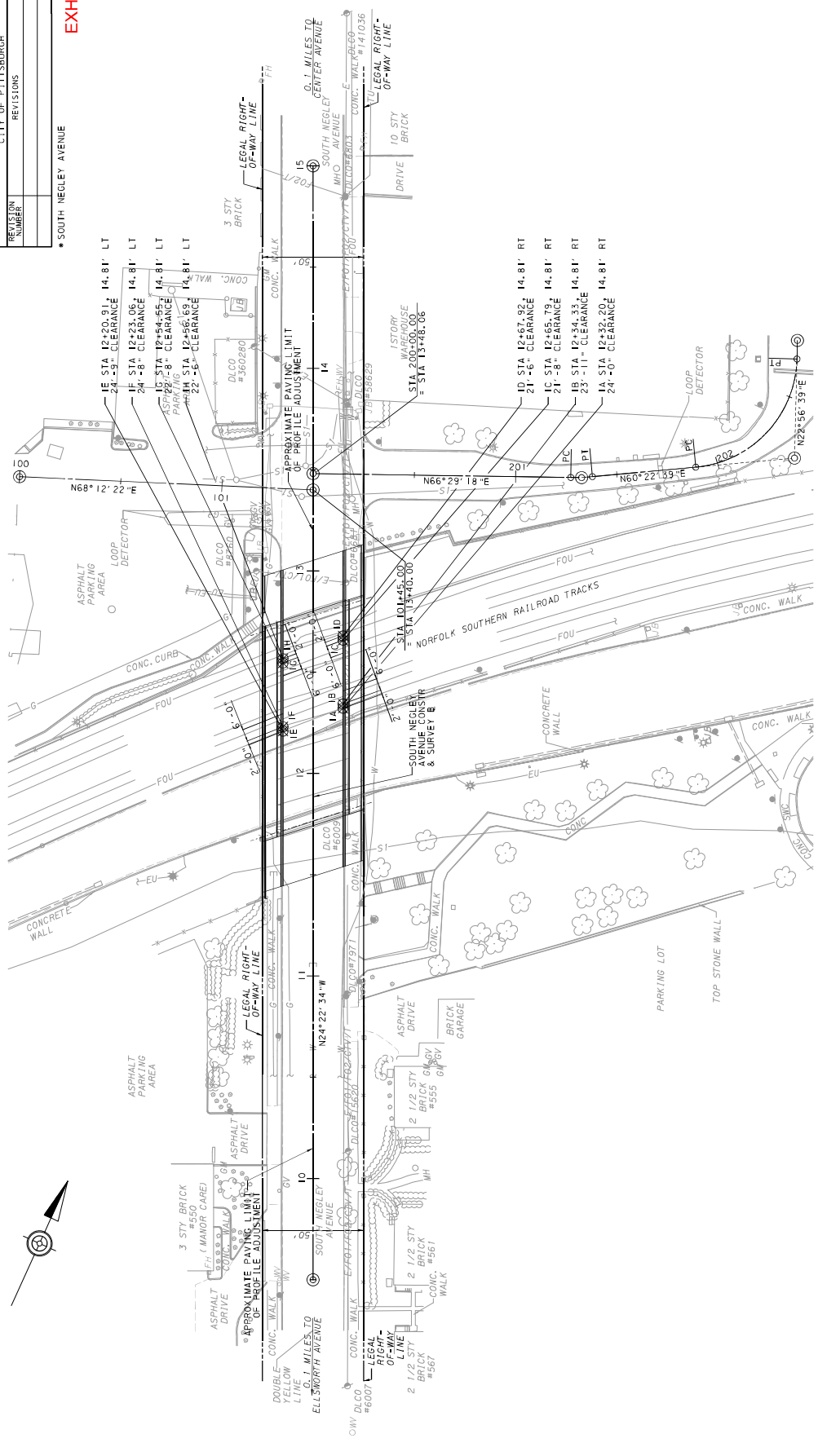
Pronouns: he, him, his



DISTRICT	COUNTY	ROUTE	SECTION	SHEET
11-0	ALLEGHENY	CITY OF PITTSBURGH	-	1 OF 1
REVISION NUMBER	REVISIONS	DATE	BY	

• SOUTH NEGLEY AVENUE

**EXHIBIT B**



21'-6" MVC FROM CL OUTSIDE TRACKS TO 8'-0" OFFSET

EXISTING STRUCTURE DATA  
SOUTH NEGLEY AVENUE CONSTR & SURVEY  
STATIONING 22+50 TO 202  
SPAN 7' SPAN @ 101.33'  
UNDERCLEARANCE (RAILROAD): 20.35'  
UNDERCLEARANCE (BOSSMAN): 14.30'  
CLEAR ROADWAY WIDTH 30.0'

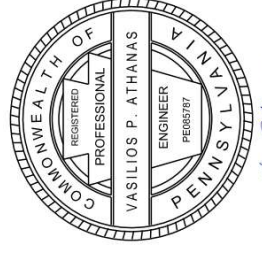


South Negley Minimum  
Clearance

By: MDO  
Date: January 2026

Checked By: VPA  
Date: January 2026

Point	Station	Side	Bottom of Structure Elevation	Perpendicular Rail Elevation	Clearance	Clearance		Rail	Offset from Rail Centerline
						ft	in		
1A	12+32.20	RT	894.85	870.81	24.04	24	0.48	South	8'-0"
1B	12+34.33	RT	894.77	870.82	23.95	23	11.34	South	6'-0"
1C	12+65.79	RT	893.03	871.37	21.66	21	7.98	North	6'-0"
1D	12+67.92	RT	892.89	871.38	21.51	21	6.08	North	8'-0"
1E	12+20.91	LT	895.23	870.50	24.73	24	8.81	South	8'-0"
1F	12+23.06	LT	895.17	870.51	24.66	24	7.91	South	6'-0"
1G	12+54.55	LT	893.75	871.08	22.67	22	8.10	North	6'-0"
1H	12+56.69	LT	893.63	871.08	22.55	22	6.56	North	8'-0"



*Vasilios P. Athanas*



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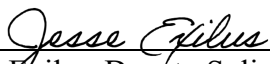
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Date: May 22 , 2026