

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

GRANTS & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026
8:20 PM (Approximately)**

Chairperson: Craig Timberlake

Vice Chairperson: Maggie Epstein, Michael Daly

AGENDA

1. LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST - GLADWYNE FREE LIBRARY KEYSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING GRANT SUBMISSION
2. RESOLUTION - FEDERAL COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING GRANT FOR ARDMORE MULTI-MODAL TRANSIT CENTER PROJECT



Township of Lower Merion
A FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

COMMITTEE: Grants & Community Development

ITEM: **LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST - GLADWYNE FREE LIBRARY KEYSTONE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING GRANT SUBMISSION**

Consider for recommendation to the Board of Commissioners authorizing the issuance of a letter of support to the Gladwyne Free Library as part of an application to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) for a Keystone Historic Preservation Planning Grant.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[03-06-26 Issue Briefing - Gladwyne Library PA Room Support Request.docx](#)

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Grants and Community Development Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Letter of Support to the Gladwyne Free Library for a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) Keystone Historic Preservation Planning Grant.

Prepared By: Brandon Ford, Assistant Township Manager
Lynn Williamson, Director of Libraries

Date: March 6, 2026

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Authorize issuance of a letter of support to the Gladwyne Free Library as part of an application to the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) for a Keystone Historic Preservation Planning Grant.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

Letters of support to state agencies should be authorized by the Board of Commissioners.

III. Current Policy or Practice (If Applicable):

In the past, the Township has issued letters of support for grant applications submitted by non-Township entities that act to further Township goals. Although the Gladwyne Free Library is part of the Lower Merion Township Library System, the Library exists as a non-profit organization capable of applying to this grant program and has requested a letter of support from the Township.

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

On March 2, 2026 the Gladwyne Library submitted a grant application to the PHMC's Keystone Historic Preservation Planning Grant requesting \$24,594.30 to preserve and expand access to the Library's Pennsylvania Room, a fragile collection documenting local and state history. The Pennsylvania Room Preservation Project, as envisioned by the Gladwyne Free Library Board of Trustees, would conduct professional surveys to identify and prioritize unique materials, conserve fragile volumes, and improve archival storage conditions. This project would also digitize the collection, safeguard irreplaceable historical resources while making them more accessible to the public.

V. Impact On Township Finances: None.

VI. Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends providing the requested letter of support.



Township of Lower Merion
A FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

COMMITTEE: Grants & Community Development

ITEM: **RESOLUTION - FEDERAL COMMUNITY PROJECT FUNDING GRANT FOR ARDMORE MULTI-MODAL TRANSIT CENTER PROJECT**

Consider for recommendation to the Board of Commissioners adoption of a resolution authorizing the Township to submit an application to the Federal Community Project Funding Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center Project in the amount of \$2.5 million.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[Issue Briefing - Community Project Grant Ardmore Multi Modal Project](#)

[Resolution - Community Project Grant Ardmore Multi Modal Project](#)

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION
Grants & Community Development Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Resolution to Submit an Application to the Federal Community Project Funding Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2027

Prepared By: Brandon Ford, Assistant Township Manager

Date: March 6, 2026

I. Action To Be Considered by the Board:

Adopt a resolution authorizing the Township to submit an application to the Federal Community Project Funding Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center Project in the amount of \$2.5 million.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

A resolution authorizing submission is required for grant applications.

III. Current Policy or Practice (If Applicable): N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

Located in Pennsylvania's 5th Congressional District represented by U.S. Congresswoman Scanlon, downtown Ardmore is a vibrant commercial corridor and economic anchor within Montgomery County and the Greater Philadelphia region. Lower Merion Township, in partnership with Amtrak, seeks to reimagine two surface parking lots adjacent to the Ardmore Train Station into a modern structured parking facility. If funded, this project would amplify the growing energy in Ardmore, enhance accessibility for commuters and visitors, and bring more foot traffic to local shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues.

In October 2025, the Township executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Amtrak to jointly market and pursue the development of properties at Ardmore Station through a Master Developer Process. The MOU outlined the collaborative process currently underway to market and redevelop several contiguous parcels owned by Amtrak and the Township, with the goal of delivering significant public benefits. Central to that undertaking is the desire to construct new public parking spaces as part of a structured, multi-modal parking facility that would serve commuters, local businesses, Township facilities, and future commercial tenants. The Township's application requests \$2.5 million in federal funds for the development of the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center from the Community Project Funding Grant Program. Federal

support through the Community Project Funding Program would significantly strengthen the partnership between Amtrak and Lower Merion Township, helping to attract private investment and accelerate implementation of this transformative project. A federal commitment of this nature would also signal unified support across local, state, and federal partners, demonstrating that all levels of government recognize the project's importance to Ardmore's economic vitality and regional mobility.

The Federal Community Project Funding Grant Program is part of Congress's annual appropriations process that allows members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to request direct federal funding for specific, locally driven projects in the communities they represent. The program is available to state, local, tribal, and territorial governments and aims to fund a wide range of community focused investments such as infrastructure, economic development, and public facilities that address local needs and priorities.

V. Impact On Township Finance:

There is no direct financial impact on Township's finances.

VI. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Township adopt a resolution authorizing application to the Federal Community Project Funding Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center Project.

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION AUTHORIZING THE
APPLICATION TO FEDERAL COMMUNITY PROJECT
FUNDING PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027 FOR THE
ARDMORE MULTI-MODAL TRANSIT CENTER PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Lower Merion Township is a first-class Township of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania committed to enhancing mobility, economic vitality, and infrastructure investment within its commercial districts; and

WHEREAS, the Township entered into a partnership with Amtrak to advance the planning for the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center project (the “Project”) in downtown Ardmore, which will improve regional connectivity, enhance public access, and support economic development within one of the Township’s primary commercial corridors; and

WHEREAS, the Project is intended to modernize and integrate transit facilities serving residents, commuters, businesses, and visitors, including coordination with regional rail, structured parking, pedestrian access, and related site improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Project supports local, county, and regional planning objectives by strengthening transportation infrastructure, promoting economic competitiveness, and improving circulation within the Ardmore business district; and

WHEREAS, the United States House of Representatives administers the Congressional Community Project Funding (“CPF”) Program, which provides federal funding for eligible community-based capital projects; and

WHEREAS, the Township desires to submit a \$2.5 million request for Fiscal Year 2027 CPF funding to support the design, engineering, construction, and related capital costs of the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion hereby authorizes the Township Manager to submit an application to the Congressional Community Project Funding Program for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Ardmore Multi-Modal Transit Center Project

RESOLVED, this day of , 2026

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION**

Todd M. Sinai, President

ATTEST:

Jody L. Kelley, Secretary