

## **Legal Aspects:**

As part of the effort to encourage public participation in planning for public transportation services, the Authority holds a public hearing annually. The purpose of the hearing is to review the Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority's plans for services and the grants being sought from federal, state and local county sources to underwrite expenses.

Today's hearing will deal with LANTA's capital program for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

Included in the hearing presentation will be a review of LANTA's capital program for both the LANtaBus and LANtaVan service divisions.

If anyone here wishes to make a statement, a comment or contribute testimony, we ask that you please indicate this on the attendance list we have made available near the entrance to this room.

We ask that you reserve statements, comments or questions until after the formal statement.

When called upon, please state your full name and address and any organizational affiliation you wish to make known before making your statement. Testimony will be accepted in all standard forms of communication: written, recorded, or others. All comments made today and those received by Monday, May 26, 2017 will be considered as official testimony on the record of this hearing and will be reviewed by the LANTA Board of Directors.

Comments may also be submitted by phone by calling 610-776-7433 or by mail at 1060 Lehigh Street, Allentown, PA 18103. LANTA is also accepting comments received by electronic means either through its e-mail address ([customerservice@lantabus.com](mailto:customerservice@lantabus.com)) or through the on line comment form on its Internet Web Site at [www.lantabus.com](http://www.lantabus.com). We believe that this is an important means of letting people who are unable to attend this meeting, make their opinions known.

In addition to affording the general public an opportunity to meet with the Authority in an open forum, this hearing meets certain requirements for funding of transportation operations under Federal Transit Program, Fixing America's Surface Transportation

(FAST) Act and the Pennsylvania Public Transportation Assistance Legislation, Act 89 of 2013.

To alert the public about this hearing, advertisements appeared in the legal notice section of the Allentown Morning Call, on Wednesday, April 12 and Friday, April 28, 2017. Prior to this meeting, notices were posted on LANTA's web site.

Following the recording of all statements, the floor will be open for general questions and comments. Persons providing verbal comments will be provided 5 minutes to speak.

The LANTA Board of Directors will review all comments received through this process and adjust its plans and programs as appropriate. If however, there are no significant changes to the program outlined here today, the program will be implemented as presented with no additional public hearings.

Finally, if anyone here today or anyone who is unable to attend this hearing wishes to comment in writing, such testimony will be accepted as part of the record of this hearing if received on or before May 26, 2017, at the LANTA offices in Allentown and or Easton or by phone or electronic means.

Now, the public hearing statement will be read.

### **Public Hearing Statement**

**Friday, May 12, 2017**

**12:00 noon, LANTA Community Room**

The Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) was created by Lehigh and Northampton Counties in March of 1972 for the purpose of providing the residents of the two counties with convenient, dependable and affordable public transportation services.

Since its creation, LANTA has revised routes and schedules; expanded services; restructured transit fares; continuously improved its bus fleet and made other necessary capital improvements to facilities, to help achieve the high quality of public transit services being provided.

LANTA presently provides fixed-route services, its LANtaBus System, over 28 bus routes within and between Lehigh and Northampton Counties and owns and operates 83 city transit vehicles.

Approximately 4.5 million passengers will have boarded LANtaBus transit vehicles during the annual by the end of fiscal 2017.

Through the LANtaVan division, approximately 420,000 trips will have been provided this fiscal year to the elderly and people with disabilities in the community using 108 publicly owned, accessible vans and mini-buses operated through contract with a local private carrier, Easton Coach Company.

LANTA intends to continue its investment in capital equipment and to work towards greater efficiency and productivity of its services in the quest to meet ever-growing demand.

The Authority will be applying for capital and planning funds from the federal government to support a proposed program of projects. Funds will be sought to support these projects through Sections 5307, 5310, 5339 and other sections of Fixing America’s Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2015, the current federal transportation authorizing legislation as approved and sanctioned by the United States Congress.

Funds for the FFY 2018 Program of Projects will be sought through Federal Transit Administration (FTA) formula funding programs Section 5307, 5339 & 5340 of the FAST Act in the amount of \$8.88 million as apportioned to the Allentown-Bethlehem-Easton, PA; Phillipsburg, NJ urbanized area (PA portion) for transit projects through FFY 2018. Approximately \$850,000 of funding under the Federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) program and \$658,000 of funding under the Federal Section 5310 program is also being sought. Matching funds are provided through the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Act 89 funding as well as through Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Pennsylvania for a total program budget of \$13.29 million. The FFY 2018 Program of Projects is described below. Line items will be funded through a combination of the sources noted above:

Project	Total
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<b>Bus Rolling Stock</b>	<b>6,387,500</b>
Three (3) Replacement 40-FT Buses CNG	1,515,000
Five (5) Replacement 35-FT Buses CNG	2,500,000
Lease Associated Capital Maintenance Items	100,000
Buy Associated Capital Maintenance Items	900,000
Replacement Vans (LANtaVan)	1,312,000
Replacement Non-Revenue Service Vehicles	60,000
<b>OTHER CAPITAL ITEMS</b>	<b>5,910,000</b>
Preventive Maintenance - Vehicles	5,000,000
ADA Paratransit Service Capitalization	850,000
Miscellaneous Facility Preventive Maintenance	60,000
<b>Bus Support Equipment and Facilities</b>	<b>313,000</b>
Miscellaneous Support equipment	100,000
Track Concrete Replacement Program	213,000
<b>ITS &amp; Other Security</b>	<b>682,001</b>
Computer & Related Equipment	110,843
LANTA Fare Collection System	450,000
Avail Maintenance Contract	121,158
	<b>13,292,501</b>

The items being presented at the hearing have been approved by the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study, (LVTS), and are part of the certified Transportation Improvement Program, or TIP, for the Lehigh Valley.

That concludes the official testimony of the hearing and the members of the public in attendance who have indicated they would like to make a statement on the sign-in sheet will now be provided the opportunity to make their comments. After these individuals have made their comments, all in attendance will be allowed to ask questions. Thank you.

End.