

## Parking plan chugs ahead for Elizabethtown train station

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600 South Hanover St. Elizabethtown

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The construction of a lot for overflow parking at the Elizabethtown train station is back on track as plans to move the old freight station on the site have been finalized.



Plans for overflow and long-term parking at the Elizabethtown train station, seen here in this 2011 photo, are moving forward now that the borough has reached an agreement on an old freight building on the property. (File photo)

At its Thursday work session meeting, Elizabethtown Borough council heard an update on the planned overflow and long-term parking lot at the end of Wilson Avenue.

The fate of a historic freight station on the lot had slowed the project, derailing a construction bid that had been approved in October, because the preservation of the station wasn't scrutinized adequately by various agencies, including federal transportation officials.

Now, the borough has reached an agreement to have White Oak Mills, a nearby feed manufacturer, take the station and use it on their property as storage.

"We have the interest and the need as well as the resources to restore it and maintain it," Todd Cirelli, the operations manager for White Oak Mills, said after the meeting.

Construction on the lot could begin this summer, with completion possible by the end of the year. Once it is done, the lot would provide 85 additional parking spaces.

The deal for the freight station involves a swap of some of White Oaks Mills' land in a lot across West High Street, allowing for a planned pedestrian pathway to go through the area. The lot, which includes land owned by the borough and the mill, previously had been considered a kind of temporary home for the freight station.

The station, which sits on concrete piers, formerly housed the Railway Express Agency, a precursor to UPS and Federal Express.

Cirelli said engineers have been working to arrange details of the freight station's move, which he expects

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to be completed this summer.

Like the train station itself, construction of the overflow parking lot will be paid for with money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

*source: LancasterOnline.com*