

## Coatesville Train Station project moving forward

By Lucas Rodgers

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An artist's rendering of the new Coatesville Train station includes a streetscape drawing of the proposed train station waiting area.

COATESVILLE—Despite some complications caused by Pennsylvania's ongoing budget impasse, plans are steadily moving ahead for a project to construct a new Coatesville Train Station and make streetscape improvements to Third Avenue and Fleetwood Street.

Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Project Manager Jenn Granger presented an update on the project, during a City Council meeting on Monday evening.

Granger said the design stage of the streetscape project is 60 percent completed, and PennDOT had received approval from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Monday afternoon.

Construction for the streetscape improvements will begin this year with the anticipation of receiving a notice to proceed with construction in July, and the project is expected to be completed within a year after groundbreaking or hopefully sooner, Granger said.

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The streetscape project includes improved streets, Americans with Disabilities Act- (ADA)-compliant sidewalks, parking, lighting, traffic signals, planters, bike racks and pedestrian accessibility for Third Avenue from Lincoln Highway to Fleetwood Street.

Granger said the first phase of the project will be the streetscape improvements to Third Avenue, the second phase will be construction of a relocated Fleetwood Street, and the third and final phase will be the construction of the new train station and platform.

She said design and construction of the streetscape improvements and the train station is being funded by PennDOT and the FTA, but construction for a planned parking garage for the train station is being treated as a separate project.

FTA funds will cover part of the building, including the waiting area and the restrooms for the train station, but money for the other floors would need to come from elsewhere, Granger said.

She said Coatesville's Redevelopment Authority (RDA) has submitted two multimodal grant applications: one to PennDOT and one to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

PennDOT is still reviewing the application, and DCED is ready to make announcements, but because of the budget situation in Harrisburg, that's on indefinite hold, Granger said.

"We wanted to keep the design for the station moving, and I think once that happens, I think we're going to find the money for the station, and then the garage will be part of that too," Granger said.

*source: [www.dailylocal.com](http://www.dailylocal.com)*