

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE, 425 Bower Hill Road, Bridgeville, PA 15017
TOWNSHIP OF COLLIER, 2418 Hilltop Road, Presto, PA 15142
TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE, 515 Millers Run Road, Morgan, PA 15064
TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR, 1820 McLaughlin Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

April 6, 2021

Honorable Tom Wolf
Governor
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
508 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Honorable Yassman Gramian, PE
Secretary of Transportation
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
400 North St., 5th Floor.
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Honorable Robert Casey
U.S. Senator
Grant Building
310 Grant Street, Suite 2415
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Honorable Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator
Grant Building
310 Grant Street, Suite 1440
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Honorable Mike Doyle
U.S. Representative
2637 East Carson Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Honorable Conner Lamb
U.S. Representative
504 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Honorable Devlin Robinson
State Senator
1700 N. Highland Road, Suite 307
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Honorable Jason Ortity
State Representative
300 Old Pond Road, Suite 205A
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Ms. Cheryl Moon-Sirianni
District Executive
PENNDOT DIST. 11
45 Thoms Run Road
Bridgeville, PA 15017

RE: PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE BRIDGEVILLE INTERCHANGE

Dear Honorable Governor, Secretary, Senators, Congressmen, Representative and District Executive:

United as a region, the four municipalities of Bridgeville, Collier, South Fayette, and Upper St. Clair, representing 48,788 citizens, seek your support and consideration to reconsider the proposal to enact tolls on Interstate 79 at the Bridgeville Interchange. This plan as proposed by PENNDOT will have many negative impacts on our citizenry, communities and will have irreversible consequences to the future, growth and sustainability of our region that needs to be immediately reconsidered.

Enclosed are Resolutions that have been adopted by each one of our communities at our March meetings of Council and Board of Commissioners that formally oppose PENNDOT's plan to toll this bridge and overpass.

Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our communities to the majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for making our region the ideal place to live and work due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater metropolitan Pittsburgh area. Having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region, mainly South Fayette and Collier Townships, that has created new jobs, attracted citizens to all our communities and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here.

If this toll bridge is to be created at the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, it will have dire and irreversible consequences to our communities that include exacerbated traffic congestion and unsafe conditions for pedestrians on Route 50 as it will be the principal diversion route, degradation of our local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, result in a lack of future development and investment in our region, reduce property values, and will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic. The progress that has been initiated and advanced over the past decade in this region will be lost and the quality of life for our citizenry will be greatly diminished.

Our elected officials have formally declared that imposing tolls on I-79 will have nothing but negative consequences and call upon you to find another funding source to complete the improvements to this interchange. On behalf of almost 50,000 citizens and our growing business community, the members of Council and Commissioners of our four communities, demand that our state and federal officials prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and request that action be taken now to formally study, fund and make improvements to Route 50, a roadway connecting our communities that is already overly congested and lacks the ability to handle any increased burden.

On behalf of our Commissioners, members of Council and Mayor, we thank you for your consideration and we look forward to working with you to reconsider PENNDOT's plan to toll I-79.

Respectfully yours,

THE BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager

THE TOWNSHIP OF COLLIER



Kyle Thauvette
Township Manager

THE TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE



John Barrett
Township Manager

THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR



Matthew R. Serakowski
Township Manager

Enclosure: Resolutions (4)

CC: Commissioners and Councils

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-8

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL AND MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF BRIDGEVILLE, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE BRIDGEVILLE INTERCHANGE.

WHEREAS, Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our community to majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for making Bridgeville the ideal place to live due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region that has created new jobs, attracted new citizens to our community and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here, and;

WHEREAS, for over the past five years, PENNDOT has planned for improvements to the I-79 Bridgeville interchange, including projects now under construction to improve the south bridge into Bridgeville along Route 50, and has partnered with our community to widen Chartiers Street, another state roadway, a project that Bridgeville citizens have committed \$788,000 of its own tax dollars towards, and;

WHEREAS, in February 2021, PENNDOT blindsided our citizenry, a community it has been partnering with to improve this interchange, when it proposed that to pay for the remaining work needed to improve the Bridgeville / I-79 Interchange that it would impose tolls on our citizens and the motorists who use this section of I-79 each day, and;

WHEREAS, if these tolls are permitted to be imposed, many of the 87,000 motorists who use this roadway each day will find themselves using alternative routes such as our local roadways, mainly already heavily congested Route 50 to divert from paying the I-79 tolls, and;

WHEREAS, the increased traffic and number of motorists who will now be traveling through Bridgeville using our local roadways will create dire consequences that will negatively affect the health, growth and sustainability of our community including: exacerbated traffic congestion, adding to unsafe conditions for pedestrians, degradation of our local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, reduce property values, result in a lack of future development and investment, and will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council and Mayor of the Borough of Bridgeville hereby resolves the following:

1. As a united Council and Mayor, on behalf of the 5,300 citizens and its business community, formally state the opposition of our community to the tolling of I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange, and;

2. Declare that imposing tolls on I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange will have negative consequences to the environment, causing undue harm to our local roads, and cause unmanageable traffic congestion that will result in a lack of business, lack of redevelopment and a reduced quality of life, and;
3. Call upon our state and federal elected officials to find alternative funding to pay for the improvements needed to the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, and;
4. Demand that our state and federal officials do everything within their power to prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and;
5. Request PENNDOT to formally study the proposed diversion traffic routes, prioritizing Route 50, to fund and make all improvement necessary to mitigate and reduce traffic congestion coming into and through Bridgeville Borough.

FURTHER DIRECTS that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation, PENNDOT District Executive, Governor Tom Wolf, State Senator Devlin Robinson, State Representative Jason Ortity, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Pat Toomey, and Congressman Mike Doyle.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED AT A PUBLIC MEETING HELD THIS 8TH DAY OF MARCH 2021, and in testimony whereof, we the undersigned members of Borough Council and Mayor, hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the Borough of Bridgeville to be affixed.



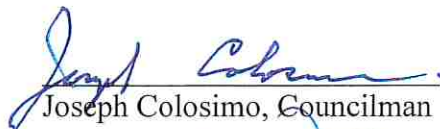
William Henderson, President



Betty L. Copeland, Mayor



Nino Petrocelli, Jr., Vice President



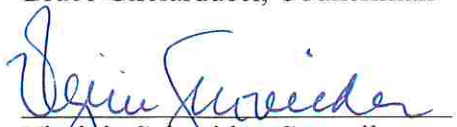
Joseph Colosimo, Councilman




Bruce Ghelarducci, Councilman



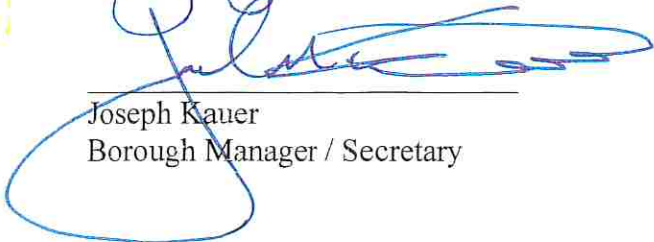
Joseph Verduci, Councilman



Virginia Schneider, Councilwoman



Nicholas Ciesielski, Councilman



Joseph Kauer
Borough Manager / Secretary



**TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

RESOLUTION NO. 05 OF 2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE
BRIDGEVILLE INTERCHANGE SITUATED WITHIN SOUTH FAYETTE
TOWNSHIP.**

WHEREAS, Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our community to majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for making South Fayette Township the ideal place to live due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region that has created new jobs, attracted new citizens to our community and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here, and;

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PENNDOT) has planned for improvements to the I-79 Bridgeville interchange within South Fayette, including projects now under construction to improve congestion and mobility along Route 50, and has partnered with the Township to improve the intersection of Route 50 and Washington Pike, a project that South Fayette Township and private land developers have financed.

WHEREAS, in February 2021, PENNDOT blindsided our citizenry, a community it has been partnering with to improve this interchange, when it proposed that to pay for the remaining work needed to improve the I-79 Interchange by imposing tolls on our citizens and the motorists who use this section of I-79 each day, and;

WHEREAS, if these tolls are permitted to be imposed, many of the 87,000 motorists who use this roadway each day will find themselves using alternative routes such as our local roadways, mainly already heavily congested Route 50 to divert from paying the I-79 tolls, and;

WHEREAS, the increased traffic and number of motorists who will now be traveling through South Fayette using our local roadways will negatively affect the health, growth and sustainability of our community including: exacerbated traffic congestion, adding to unsafe conditions for pedestrians, degradation of our local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, reduce property values, result in a lack of future development and investment, and

will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Fayette Commissioners and the Township Manager hereby resolves the following:

1. As a united Board of Commissioners and Township Manager, on behalf of the 15,000 citizens and its business community, formally state the opposition of our community to the tolling of I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange, and;
2. Declare that imposing tolls on I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange will have negative consequences to the environment, causing undue harm to our local roads, and cause unmanageable traffic congestion that will result in a lack of business, lack of redevelopment and a reduced quality of life, and;
3. Call upon our state and federal elected officials to find alternative funding to pay for the improvements needed to the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, and;
4. Demand that our state and federal officials do everything within their power to prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and;
5. Request PENNDOT to formally study the proposed diversion traffic routes, prioritizing Route 50, to fund and make all improvement necessary to mitigate and reduce traffic congestion coming into and through South Fayette Township.


FURTHER DIRECTS that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation, PENNDOT District Executive, Governor Tom Wolf, State Senator Devlin Robinson, State Representative Jason Ortity, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Pat Toomey, and Congressman Mike Doyle.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED INTO LAW this 10th day of March 2021.

ATTEST:



John M. Barrett
Township Manager




Joe Horowitz, Vice-President
Board of Commissioners




Rebecca Gray
Commissioner

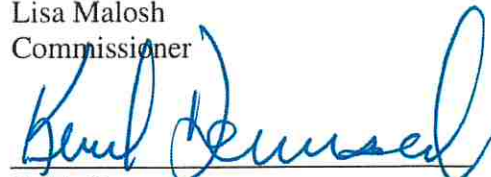
TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FAYETTE:



Gwen Rodi, President
Board of Commissioners



Lisa Malosh
Commissioner



Keith Dernosek
Commissioner

RESOLUTION NO. 030821-01

**A RESOLUTION OF COLLIER TOWNSHIP, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, OPPOSING
THE PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE BRIDGEVILLE
INTERCHANGE IN SOUTH FAYETTE TOWNSHIP.**

WHEREAS, Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our communities to a majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for helping make Collier Township an ideal place to live, work and raise a family due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater Pittsburgh metropolitan area, and;

WHEREAS, having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region that has created new jobs, attracted new residents to our communities and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here, and;

WHEREAS, for over the past five years, PENNDOT has planned for improvements to the I-79 Bridgeville interchange in South Fayette, including projects now under construction to improve the south bridge into Bridgeville along Route 50, and;

WHEREAS, in February 2021, PENNDOT proposed that to pay for the remaining work needed to improve the Bridgeville / I-79 Interchange, it would impose tolls on our citizens and the motorists who use this section of I-79 each day, and;

WHEREAS, if these tolls are permitted to be imposed, many of the 87,000 motorists who use this roadway each day will find themselves using alternative routes such as our local roadways, mainly already heavily congested Route 50 to divert from paying the I-79 tolls, and;

WHEREAS, the increased traffic and number of motorists who will now be traveling through Collier Township using our local roadways will create dire consequences that will negatively affect the health, growth and sustainability of our community including: exacerbated traffic congestion, adding to unsafe conditions for pedestrians, degradation of our local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, reduce property values, result in a lack of future development and investment, drive economic growth away from our region, and will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Collier Township Board of Commissioners hereby resolve the following:

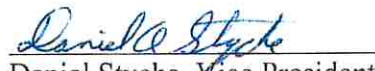
1. As a united Board, on behalf of its more than 8,000 citizens and its business community, formally state the opposition of our community to the tolling of I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange in South Fayette Township, and;
2. Declare that imposing tolls on I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange will have negative consequences to the environment, causing undue harm to our local roads, and cause unmanageable traffic congestion that will result in a lack of business, lack of regional economic growth, and a reduced quality of life, and;

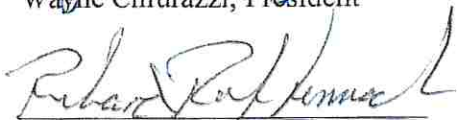
3. Call upon our state and federal elected officials to find alternative funding to pay for the improvements needed to the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, and;
4. Demand that our state and federal officials do everything within their power to prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and;
5. Request PENNDOT to formally study the proposed diversion traffic routes, prioritizing Route 50, to fund and make all improvements necessary to mitigate and reduce traffic congestion coming into and through Collier Township.

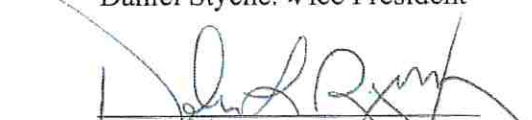
FURTHER DIRECTS that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Secretary of Transportation, PENNDOT District Executive, Governor Tom Wolf, State Senator Devlin Robinson, State Representative Jason Ortity, Senator Robert Casey, Senator Pat Toomey, and Congressman Connor Lamb.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED AT A PUBLIC MEETING HELD THIS 8TH DAY OF MARCH 2021, and in testimony whereof, we the undersigned members of Collier Township Board of Commissioners hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the Township of Collier to be affixed.


Wayne Chiurazzi, President


Daniel Styche, Vice President


Richard Ruffennach, Commissioner


Debra Zymroz, Commissioner


Mary Ann Cupples-Wisniowski, Commissioner


Kyle Thauvette, Township Manager



TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR

RESOLUTION NO. 1699

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR, A HOME RULE MUNICIPALITY, COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA OPPOSING THE PROPOSED TOLLING OF INTERSTATE 79 AT THE BRIDGEVILLE INTERCHANGE.

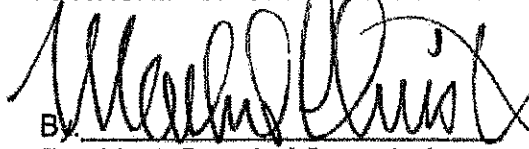
- WHEREAS, Interstate 79 is the primary roadway that connects our community to majority of western Pennsylvania and is credited for making the region an ideal place to live due to its connectivity to other major highways and the greater metropolitan area, and;
- WHEREAS, having direct and unfettered access to I-79 has enabled redevelopment and significant investment in our region that has created new jobs, attracted new citizens to our community and sustained a high quality of life for those living and working here, and;
- WHEREAS, for over the past five years, PENNDOT has planned for improvements to the I-79 Bridgeville interchange, including projects now under construction to improve the south bridge into Bridgeville along Route 50, and has partnered with our community to widen Chartiers Street, another State roadway, a project that the Township of Upper St. Clair has supported, and;
- WHEREAS, in February 2021, PENNDOT blindsided the region when it proposed that to pay for the remaining work needed to improve the Bridgeville / I-79 Interchange that it would impose tolls on our citizens and the motorists who use this section of I-79 each day, and;
- WHEREAS, if these tolls are permitted to be imposed, many of the 87,000 motorists who use this roadway each day will find themselves using alternative routes such as the already heavily congested Route 50 to divert from paying the I-79 tolls, and;
- WHEREAS, the increased traffic and number of motorists who will now be traveling through the area using alternative routes will create dire consequences that will negatively affect the health, growth and sustainability of our community including: exacerbated traffic congestion, adding to unsafe conditions for pedestrians, degradation of local roadways that already lack funding to be maintained, reduce property values, result in a lack of future development and investment, and will impose many negative environmental impacts resulting from increased idling of vehicles sitting in traffic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR AS FOLLOWS:

- THAT, The Township of Upper St. Clair, on behalf of its nearly 21,000 citizens and its business community, formally state the opposition of our community to the tolling of I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange, and;
- THAT, Declare that imposing tolls on I-79 at the Bridgeville Interchange will have negative consequences to the environment, causing undue harm to local roads, and cause unmanageable traffic congestion that will result in a lack of business, lack of redevelopment and a reduced quality of life, and;
- THAT, Call upon our State and Federal elected officials to find alternative funding to pay for the improvements needed to the Bridgeville I-79 Interchange, and;
- THAT, Demand that our State and Federal officials do everything within their power to prevent PENNDOT from the ability to impose tolls on motorists traveling I-79, and;
- THAT, Request PENNDOT to formally study the proposed diversion traffic routes, prioritizing Route 50, to fund and make all improvement necessary to mitigate and reduce traffic congestion coming into and through the region.

ADOPTED THIS 5TH DAY OF APRIL, 2021.

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER ST. CLAIR



By _____
President, Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:



Township Manager