

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-9

BOROUGH OF DOYLESTOWN BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

A RESOLUTION OF DOYLESTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL AND THE MAYOR URGING THE COMMONWEALTH TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT, DEDICATED, SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR SEPTA

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) is critical to southeastern Pennsylvania's regional economy and tax base, to traffic management, and to the ability of Doylestown Borough residents to move around the region; and,

WHEREAS, SEPTA directly serves Doylestown Borough residents and businesses with bus and rail service, which help people commute to work, visit friends and family, travel to shops and businesses, and meet their day-to-day transportation needs; and,

WHEREAS, SEPTA also reduces regional traffic and increases property values and the tax base within its service area, benefitting Doylestown Borough residents and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, SEPTA has made significant progress on improving the system's safety, cleanliness, and efficiency, with the largest SEPTA police force in over a decade, over 700 cleaning and maintenance personnel, and a cost to operate bus and train service that is meaningfully lower than peer transit systems; and,

WHEREAS, despite this progress, funding for SEPTA has stagnated while costs have escalated, a situation that threatens to completely eliminate five Regional Rail lines and 50 bus routes as well as imposing 20 percent service cuts on the remaining system and increasing fares for riders by over 20 percent; and,

WHEREAS, this crisis would significantly impact local Doylestown Borough residents and businesses by eliminating and/or reducing bus and rail services; and,

WHEREAS, this transit funding crisis would also lead to major impacts on non-riders as well, including an estimated 275,000 additional cars on roads across southeastern Pennsylvania and an estimated \$19.9 billion total loss in property values from transit service cuts across Montgomery, Delaware, Bucks, Chester, and Philadelphia counties; and,

WHEREAS, this is estimated to cost Bucks County's municipalities, school districts, and county government a combined \$3 million annually in lost property tax revenues, and would likely lead to higher property tax rates on local residents and businesses; and,

WHEREAS, Doylestown Borough Council and the Mayor envision a different future in which local, regional, and state policymakers work together to address this transit funding crisis, avert the impending impacts to traffic congestion, property values, and the regional tax base, and provide the funding needed to ensure safe, frequent, and reliable SEPTA service; and,

WHEREAS, Doylestown Borough Council and the Mayor believe it is critical that the Pennsylvania Governor and the General Assembly budget for transit, and is committed to working together with our local, regional, and state partners to deliver transit solutions that serve our residents and businesses and improve our quality of life;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Doylestown Borough Council and the Mayor urge the Governor and the General Assembly to establish permanent, dedicated, sustainable funding sufficient to provide safe, frequent, reliable service for the entire SEPTA network.

DULY ADOPTED the 16th day of June 2025, by the Council of Borough of Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in lawful session duly assembled.

BOROUGH OF DOYLESTOWN

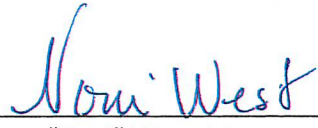
ATTEST:



John H. Davis, Secretary



John J. O'Brien, Council President



Elnora "Noni" West, Mayor