UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-15

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR INCREASED STATE FUNDING TO THE SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SEPTA) TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE PUBLIC TRANSIT SERVICE, INCLUDING BUS ROUTES, BUS STOP INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE NORRISTOWN HIGH SPEED LINE, WHICH PROVIDES CRITICAL ACCESS TO KING OF PRUSSIA AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.

WHEREAS, Upper Merion Township is home to a thriving residential, retail, and commercial population that relies on public transportation for commuting, shopping, healthcare access, and educational opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority ("SEPTA") currently operates multiple essential bus routes through Upper Merion Township—most notably Routes 99, 124, and 125—serving more than twenty-five bus stops, including key locations along US-202, Henderson Road, First Avenue, and Mall Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the King of Prussia Mall, one of the largest retail centers in the United States, depends on frequent and reliable SEPTA bus and rail service to support its workforce and millions of annual visitors, with dedicated bus stops serving the Mall and surrounding business districts; and

WHEREAS, Upper Merion Township is also served by the Norristown High Speed Line (NHSL), which provides direct rail connections between Norristown Transportation Center and the 69th Street Terminal in Upper Darby, including the Hughes Park and Gulph Mills stations located within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the NHSL is a vital transit corridor offering fast and reliable service to employment centers, educational institutions, and regional transit hubs; and

WHEREAS, frequent, safe, and accessible public transportation options—including both bus and rail—help reduce traffic congestion, improve air quality, support economic development, and expand access to opportunity for all segments of the population; and

WHEREAS, sustained and increased State investment in SEPTA's operating and capital budgets is necessary to:

1. Maintain and improve the frequency, reliability, and geographic coverage of existing bus and rail service;

2. Upgrade bus stop infrastructure throughout Upper Merion Township to meet ADA standards and enhance the rider experience;

3. Modernize the NHSL fleet, stations, and signal infrastructure to ensure safety, capacity,

and long-term system viability;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of Upper Merion Township strongly supports efforts to establish permanent, dedicated, sustainable funding sufficient to restore service for the entire SEPTA network and, ultimately achieve a frequent, safe, reliable system for all riders.

RESOLVED, this 12th day of June, 2025.

ATTEST:

Anthony Hamaday Township Manager UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Tina Garzillo Chairperson