

Comments on the Jenkintown-Wyncote Station Project from Charles Clark,  
former Jenkintown Public Works Chair and retired PennDOT engineer

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The Jenkintown-Wyncote Station project, and the entire set of transit design parameters and goals that surround it should be subject to review by all parties. This should involve not just SEPTA and its funding sources. Many of the "standards" that went into the current design of the garage and station are and have been under serious question. The funding hiatus provides a rare opportunity to look at this project with an eye toward present day environmental and transit needs rather than patching over a needs theory and design that has been on the planning shelf for almost 40 years.

Accomplishing the ADA and true parking needs of the Jenkintown-Wyncote Station should be doable within a reasonable footprint and budget, with minimum vertical and visual impact. The skills exist to do this while maintaining the ambiance of the surrounding neighborhood. Saving and marketing the existing station as the most visible and valuable feature of the facility should far outweigh the creation of a parking garage destination. Significantly more thought should also be directed toward avoiding the creation of future maintenance and environmental consequences. (Example: wisdom of locating the lower level of parking below grade within a flood plain and also acceptance of realistic odds for prompt and continuing funding of maintenance and safety for elevators in years to come.)

Direct input from the Officials of the Township and the Borough toward the original development of this project is so dated that I suspect that very few who took part are still in office.

There is a need to start over.

Charles Clark