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Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. Part of PSAB Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Award Team

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

POTTSTOWN, PA – The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB), the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), and the Pennsylvania Highway Information Association (PHIA) recognized Pottstown Borough's (Montgomery County, PA) Pedestrian Underpass as this year's Road and Bridge Safety Improvement Award Winner. Traffic Planning and Design, Inc. (TPD) provided Construction Management and Inspection Services for this two-time award winning project (recipient of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) Delaware Valley Section 2007 Project of the Year Award).

The Borough of Pottstown pursued the pedestrian underpass project, which entailed converting an existing Norfolk Southern Railroad archway to a pedestrian walkway, in order to provide a safe passage for both students of Montgomery County Community College and members of the local community. The Pottstown Pedestrian Underpass exemplifies excellent coordination between multiple parties, including the Borough of Pottstown, PennDOT, Norfolk Southern Railroad, Montgomery County Community College, and numerous designers and contractors. The result of this joint effort enables students and other pedestrians to safely cross from High Street to College Drive each day and facilitates economic growth, enhanced access, and improved quality of life in the area by linking the Central Business District to Montgomery County Community College, SEPTA, and the adjacent Schuylkill River area and park.

The project team prioritized safety as a vital component of the pedestrian underpass and incorporated numerous cost-effective alternatives to increase pedestrian safety while staying under budget. Both stairs and ADA accessible ramps were installed for improved access, and structural rehabilitation of the arch and facades addressed falling of spalled and deteriorated material from the existing structure. In addition, a canopy was constructed to protect pedestrians from ballast stone being kicked from the railroad above, and lighting was included to address safety concerns regarding limited visibility during evening use.

Since 1989, TPD has continually demonstrated a commitment to providing quality Engineering and related services for community improvement projects. From the newest office in Pittsburgh, to Pottstown, Harrisburg, and the Lehigh Valley in PA, and an office in Camden, NJ, TPD's 135 members specialize in providing transportation planning, highway and traffic signal design, bridge design and inspection, environmental permitting, and construction management and inspection services to municipal, state (DOT), and private clients. Visit us on the web at www.TrafficPD.com.

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