



Cumberland County Planning Commission

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Craighead Bridge Sold to New Owner

Cumberland County, PA- The Cumberland County Commissioners signed an agreement of sale today that officially transferred ownership of Craighead Bridge in South Middleton Township to the North Skunk River Greenbelt Association which conducts business as Workin' Bridges in Iowa. The County advertised the bridge for sale in October and Workin' Bridges was the lone bidder, offering \$1 for the 118 year old steel truss bridge. Through the bid process Workin' Bridges indicated its intent to leave the bridge in place and raise funds to make necessary improvements.

Workin' Bridges was founded in 2010 to assist organizations throughout the country in historic preservation efforts. Commissioner Vince DiFilippo noted, "Cumberland County is grateful for Workin' Bridges stepping forward to own and maintain Craighead Bridge. Under Workin' Bridges ownership, Craighead Bridge will continue to enhance the natural and cultural landscape of Cumberland County for many years to come."

Built in 1899, Craighead Bridge is a steel truss bridge that carried over 2000 vehicles per day on Zion Road over the Yellow Breeches Creek. The bridge was closed in July of 2013 after a routine inspection revealed substantial deterioration to the bridge's structural elements. The bridge was slated for demolition until Workin' Bridges expressed interest in ownership and maintenance of the bridge in February. A new, modern 2-lane bridge is currently under construction just west of the old structure. The nearly \$2.9 million replacement bridge is scheduled to be completed this fall.

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