

**PRESS RELEASE March 16, 2021**

**New Hope Proceeding with Parking Garage Project**

With \$1.75 million in state grant funds at stake, New Hope Borough is pressing ahead with plans to build a new parking garage on Borough-owned land just north of the Union Square complex. Design and construction contracts will need to be awarded before the end of June to ensure that the project retains its funding.

A major sticking point in moving ahead with the project at the Borough's ideal location is Union Square which has been permitted by the Borough to use the land for its overflow parking. After over a month of informal effort at resolving the issues, Union Square continues to obstruct the project.

In order to proceed with the parking garage and protect the state-awarded funding for the project, New Hope Borough has no choice except to pursue litigation to clear this obstacle.

The Borough's Complaint against Union Square and its Motion to expedite the court intervention is docketed as Civil Action No. 2021-01265 in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas.

New Hope Council members stress that litigation is not their preferred option. They have spent considerable time and energy over many weeks to resolve differences with Union Square. But Council has a responsibility to protect the interests of its constituents, its land, and the future growth of the local business community. Members feel they must act quickly to prevent the loss of \$1.75 million in state funds for the project.