



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
JOINT MEETING
CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY AND
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
August 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

- Corridor Improvement Authority
- Transportation Commission

Zoom meeting

ID: 880 2838 5000

Password: 5000

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- Corridor Improvement Authority
- Transportation Commission

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- July 22 2020 - Corridor Improvement Authority
- June 18 2020 - Transportation Commission

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

5. DISCUSSION

- Draft Letter to MDOT - Corridor Improvement Authority
- Grand River Avenue

6. NEXT MEETING DATES

- Corridor Improvement Authority Meeting September 23, 2020
- Transportation Commission Meeting October 22, 2020

7. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact Director of Community Planning and Development Mark Kieselbach, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4506 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Central Fire St.

Providing a safe, welcoming, sustainable, prime community.



A PRIME COMMUNITY



Charter Township of Meridian
Corridor Improvement Authority
5000 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Wednesday, July 22, 2020– Minutes -DRAFT

Members

Present: Bruce Peffers, Supervisor Ron Styka, Chris Nugent, Jeff Ross, Eric Foster and Barry Goetz

Members

Absent: Kellie Johnson, Chris Rigterink, and Brian Jones

Others

Present: Community Planning & Development Director Mark Kieselbach, Economic Development Director Ken Lane, Deputy Township Manager Derek Perry, and Planning Commissioner Holly Cordill

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Ross called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and read the mission statement.

2. **MISSION:** Set the standard in creating an entrepreneurial culture, be the example for revitalization of our business districts, and be the leaders in building sustainable public/private partnerships.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY CHAIR ROSS TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER GOETZ. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Minutes-June 24, 2020

MOTION BY MEMBER PEFFERS TO APPROVE THE JUNE 2020 MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER NUGENT. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REVIEW

a. Staff Summary

Director Lane discussed the development projects under construction and under consideration in the corridor. The LaFontaine project at Grand River and Powell is suspended for now, but may resume in a few months. They have seeded the property and are working on screening for the home at the back of the property. Anna's House is working on construction and plans to open in the fall. Buddy's Pizza is beginning construction soon in the old Burger King building. Klingman's is

under construction in the old Toys R Us building and plans to open in the fall. Green Peak Innovations will be before the Township Board in August. Red Cedar Manor mixed use development will begin soon.

b. Clarion Pointe Zoning Board of Appeals Update

Director Lane discussed that they have not been back in front of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) and they have not submitted their variance request. They will be changing their front entry overhang due to drainage issues.

7. CORRIDOR DESIGN & RESEARCH

a. Form Based Code

Director Lane reported the Planning Commission has been working on the draft of the form based code ordinance and the first area to be implemented will be Grand River west of Park Lake Road. The draft ordinance is expected to be delivered to the Township Board by the end of summer.

b. Dawn Ave-Hannah Connection

Director Lane did reach out to the Eyde Company and they would like to wait and see what happens with the Andev development before discussing the connection.

c. West Grand River Amenity & Vibrancy Opportunities

Deputy Manager Perry discussed the MDOT project along the Grand River Corridor at the June meeting. The Road Department is now thinking the project could be scheduled for 2021. Director Lane drafted a letter to MDOT, on behalf of the CIA, to inform them of the priorities of the CIA. The CIA reviewed the draft letter. A few additions to the letter were discussed. The suggestions included adding lighting to Park Lake Road, reducing the speed limit, and a crosswalk to connect the neighborhood near Montrose. Member Foster suggested to add, in addition to the 2019 survey results, these CIA priorities are a part of the Township's Corridor Improvement Authority Plan. The CIA recommended that Director Lane review Tim Potter's email regarding bike lanes from last year's discussion. They felt this information would be valuable to add to the letter. Director Lane will make the needed revisions and share the updated letter with the CIA.

Welcome Signs are on hold for now due to COVID-19. There will be more information to come as we move through the 2021 Budget process.

d. Joint Meeting with Transportation Commission

MOTION BY CHAIR ROSS TO RESCHEDULE THE AUGUST MEETING OF THE CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY TO AUGUST 20, 2020 AT 6:00PM TO ALLOW FOR A JOINT MEETING WITH THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. SUPPORTED BY SUPERVISOR STYKA. MOTION PASSES 5-0.

8. MALL DEVELOPMENT

Director Lane reported there are rumors circulating that the company that owns the Mall may file for bankruptcy protection. JC Penney is not leaving the Meridian Mall. High Caliber Karting is expanding into the former Old Navy space.

9. REPORTS

a. Township Board

Supervisor Styka reported the following:

- Met recently with the developers for the Village of Okemos. They are planning on demolition of the buildings this fall. The project is expected to proceed in the spring of 2021.
- Working on the police and fire millage renewals.
- Working on the land preservation millage. The Board is deciding whether to renew the millage, or possibly reduce it.
- Working on a diversity, equity and inclusion plan task force.

b. Planning Commission

Director Lane reported the updates from the latest meeting.

c. Chair

None.

d. Staff

Director Lane discussed the new MI business restart program that will be administered by LEAP. 394 grants of \$10,000-\$20,000 will be awarded. Recently opened Township businesses include: Cheezy D's Deli and Dogs in Haslett and Continental Oceans Technology Corporation on Jolly Road. The Pine Village mixed use development in Haslett will begin construction soon. The Haslett Marathon will be demolishing the current building and building a new building. Lastly, a new residential neighborhood is slated for Bennett Road called Silverleaf.

10. OPEN DISCUSSION/BOARD COMMENTS

Discussion regarding recreational marihuana.

12. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE

- August 20, 2020 at 6:00pm Joint Meeting with the Transportation Commission (tentative)

14. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Ross adjourned the meeting at 7:06pm.

DRAFT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2020

PRESENT: Chair Vagnozzi, Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioners Potter, Deschaine, and Hackbarth (6:15 p.m.).

ABSENT: Commissioners Hudson and Kolbasa.

STAFF: Ken Plaga, Police Chief, Derek Perry, Director of Public Works and Engineering, Ken Lane, Director of Economic Development, Peter Menser, Principal Planner, Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development and Jerry Richards, Planning Commission Representative.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the agenda.

Seconded by Commissioner Potter.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Lovell moved to approve the minutes of January 23, 2020 as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the minutes of February 6, 2020 as written.

Seconded by Vice-Chair Lovell.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

4. Communications

None

5. Public Remarks

Ken Lane, Economic Development Director introduced himself to the Commission.

6. Commission Discussion

A. Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) Update

Chair Vagnozzi welcomed Andrew Brieschke, Deputy CEO, CATA.

Mr. Brieschke provided the Commission with a packet of information on Redi-Ride service in the Township for June 2018 to March 2020. The information included passenger type, booking analysis, extended hours ridership and student ridership. (A copy of the information is on file.)

- At the start of COVID-19 CATA suspended all service except for essential trips such as medical.
- May 4, limited service and limited schedule on fix routes, must wear a mask, free fare, 1,200 to 1,600 trips per day.
- May 26, full schedule for fix routes and Redi-Ride, free fare.
- June 15, all services are back, 8,000 trips per day, collecting fare
- Prior to COVID-19 14,000 trips per day
- CATA anticipates ridership will still be down 40-50 percent for June 2020.
- Persons with disabilities make up the largest percentage of users for Redi-Ride.
- Total rides booked were 41,904 and total rides taken were 34,778.
- Number of client refusals and no shows has decreased.
- Canceled rides were the highest in June 2019.
- For next update charts will show a 24 month period.
- Redi-Ride student ridership for extended hours, August 27, 2018 to March 31, 2020 was 874, rides taken 7:30-9:0 a.m. and 81 rides taken 5:00-6:30 p.m.
- Overall student ridership is down.
- New technology for real time dispatch, booking location and payment.
- Mobile booking and bus tracking still needs to be rolled out.
- Touchless fare payment with a card or by mobile device is being worked on.
- Older buses need to be retrofitted for touchless fare box.
- 15 new buses being purchased have touchless fare boxes already installed.

B. Local Road Update

Chair Vagnozzi welcomed Derek Perry, Deputy Township Manager and Director of Public Works and Engineering.

Director Perry went through the 2020 road construction plan which included 10.24 miles of rehabilitation work and 16.7 miles of preventative maintenance crack sealing work. (A copy of the information is on file.)

- Nine roads will be crushed and resurfaced.
- Resurfacing work includes crushing the existing asphalt, grading and preparing the new road base and placing new asphalt.
- Twenty four roads will be milled and resurfaced.
- Resurfacing includes replacing defective curb and upgrading sidewalk ramps, milling off the existing asphalt pavement and placing new asphalt.
- The rehabilitation work in 2020 will focus on the roads in the poorest condition.
- The 2020 budget is \$4,122,500.
- Township is partnering with the Ingham County Road Department (ICRD) to pave Hagadorn Road north of Lake Lansing Road and Birch Row.
- Township is partnering with the Ingham County Drain Commissioner's office to pave Shaw, Potter and Edson streets.
- The resurfacing of Central Park Drive and Newman Road has started. Both roads will be restriped to three lanes.
- The resurfacing and restriping to three lanes on Jolly Road will be in late summer.
- Forest and Beaumont roads will be resurfaced this summer.
- Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) has proposed to move the resurfacing of Grand River Avenue from Marsh road to Oak Point from 2023 to 2021.
- Director Perry has been in discussion with MDOT on mid-block crosswalks on Grand River Avenue and the repair of the sidewalk across from Playmakers.
- Director Perry said he would keep the Commission informed on the work proposed along Grand River Avenue.
- 2020 local road projects are listed on the Township Website.
- Planning on having a crosswalk on Central Park Drive for the new Farmers Market.
- Crosswalk will have a red flashing beacon for pedestrians to use.
- The Commission members discussed having a joint meeting with the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA). It was suggested the joint meeting be held at next Transportation Commission meeting on August 20, 2020. Director Lane will check with the CIA and confirm the meeting date.
- Bill McConnell commented it was good to have the update from CATA. He was also in favor of mid-block crossings on Grand River Avenue.

MTC Minutes Draft

June 18, 2020

Page 4

7. Commission Comments

Chair Vagnozzi thanked Commissioner Hackbarth for all the work he had done on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Hackbarth was the first chair of the Transportation Commission and due to his effective leadership shaped the role of the Commission.

Commissioner Hackbarth thanked everyone and stated it had been a pleasure to serve on the Commission.

8. Next Meeting Dates

Transportation Commission's next meeting is August 20, 2020. The Township Board's next virtual meeting is July 7, 2020.

9. Adjournment

Chair Vagnozzi asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner Deschaine moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Potter.

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.



_____, 2020

Miranda Spare, PE
Cost and Scheduling Engineer
Michigan Department of Transportation
Lansing TSC
2700 Port Lansing Road
Lansing, MI 48906

RE: Grand River Avenue Improvements—Milling and Resurfacing Project

Dear Ms. Spare,

The Meridian Township Corridor Improvement Authority (the “CIA”) is dedicated to establishing the Grand River Avenue corridor in Meridian Township as a prime business and recreation destination in the Tri-County region. In furtherance of that mission, the CIA is supportive of transportation infrastructure improvements on Grand River that safely promote alternate modes of transportation and create the potential to spur economic growth within the Township through improved roadway conditions.

Adopted in 2017, the CIA’s Goals and Objectives focus on the promotion and improvement of Grand River Avenue and include increasing safety and accessibility for vehicles, pedestrians and bicyclists. In furtherance of its objectives, in 2019 the CIA conducted a survey of Township businesses and residents to determine, in part, what improvements or changes the community would like to see on Grand River Avenue to make it a safer, more community friendly roadway. In relation to roadway improvements that are “between the curbs” (not including sidewalks and streetscape improvements within the rights-of-way), the survey results mirrored many of the CIA’s objectives and resoundingly showed that the community would like to see the following improvements and changes: (1) enhanced pedestrian crosswalks; (2) bicycle lanes; (3) additional street lighting; and (4) a reduction of the speed limit.

We understand that the Michigan Department of Transportation (“MDOT”) is planning a milling and resurfacing project for Grand River Avenue from Oak Pointe Court west to Park Lake Road in the next 1-3 years. Accordingly, on behalf of the Township businesses and residents located in that area, the CIA requests that MDOT incorporate within its project plans the items listed above. Specifically, the CIA requests that MDOT consider:

- The addition of signalized pedestrian crosswalks (signals to include audible count-down and tactile feedback) within the 2000 block of West Grand River (near McDonalds), the 2200 block of West Grand River (near Montrose Avenue), and the 2500 block of West Grand River (near the Campus Hill Apartments);
- The addition of dedicated bicycle lanes on Grand River from Park Lake Road east to Oak Pointe Court;
- The addition of more street lighting from Park Lake Road east to Dobie Road (current street lighting is helpful but insufficient to safely light the roadway and adjacent sidewalks); and
- A reduced speed limit of 35 MPH, especially in portions of Grand River near the proposed pedestrian crosswalks.

The CIA appreciates the opportunity to share with you the results of our community survey and to present you with this desired roadway improvements list. We hope that our requests can be safely incorporated into MDOT's upcoming project.

We would be happy to meet with you to discuss these items in greater detail at your convenience. Additionally, we can provide you with more detailed information relating to each item.

Please contact us at (517) 853-4568 if you have any questions, concerns or if you would like to schedule a meeting. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Ross, Chair
Corridor Improvement Authority

cc:
CIA Members
Mr. Derek Perry
Mr. Mark Kieselbach