



Charter Township of Meridian  
Meridian Transportation Commission  
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864  
Thursday, August 20, 2020– Minutes Approved

**Members**

**Present:** Chair Vagnozzi, Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioners Potter and Deschaine,

**Members**

**Absent:** Commissioners Hudson and Kolbasa

**Others**

**Present:** Corridor Improvement Authority Members Jeff Ross, Barry Goetz, Bruce Peffers, and Supervisor Ron Styka, Director of Community Planning & Development Mark Kieselbach, Deputy Manager Derek Perry, Bill McConnell, and Planning Commissioner Holly Cordill

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 6:08pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY TREASURER DESCHAIINE. MOTION PASSES 4-0.**

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chair Vagnozzi recommended an update to the draft minutes on the bottom of page 3. The bullet that states crosswalk will have a red flashing beacon for pedestrians to use will be amended to the following: Crosswalk will have Rectangular Rapid Flashing (RRF) beacons for pedestrians to use. These will be yellow lights that flash to advise motorists that a pedestrian is crossing.

**MOTION BY TREASURER DESCHAIINE TO APPROVE THE AMENDED MINUTES. SUPPORTED BY MEMBER POTTER. MOTION PASSES 4-0.**

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

Bill McConnell stated he was happy to see both the Transportation Commission (TC) and the Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) meeting together and looks forward to the conversation.

5. DISCUSSION

- a. Draft letter to MDOT-Corridor Improvement Authority

The Corridor Improvement Authority (CIA) members reviewed the history of the letter and that it was related to the plans of MDOT to resurface the corridor in 2021. In March of 2019, the CIA conducted a survey with the businesses along the Corridor. Although the response was small, there were some common remarks relating to streetlighting, bike lanes, and crosswalks (McDonalds, Montrose, and Campus Hill Apartments). Transportation Commissioner Potter indicated that he was in support of the letter. Deputy Manager Perry commented that the Township has been working with the Drain Commissioner regarding Okemos Road flooding issues. They have convinced MDOT to push back the project until 2022 so some of these issues can be planned into the project. There was discussion regarding the MSU to Lake Lansing pathway serving that area for bikers, as well.

Discussion was had regarding the process of submitting the letter to MDOT. Transportation Commissioner Potter suggested that the letter be updated to include a forth crosswalk at the area of Washington Heights. Both the TC and the CIA agreed with this addition. Director Kieselbach suggested that he and Deputy Manager make the update to the letter, add a signature line for the TC and will send it out to both the TC and CIA for final review.

**MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL TO AUTHORIZE CHAIR VAGNOZZI TO SIGN THE LETTER ON BEHALF OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER POTTER. MOTION PASSES 4-0.**

b. Grand River Avenue

Discussion was had regarding streetlighting and that MDOT does not work directly on streetlighting. CIA Member Peffers mentioned that the CIA did have a Consumers Energy representative come in and discuss lighting for the Corridor with price quotes. That information can be reviewed at a later date.

Commissioner Potter asked Deputy Manager Perry about the intersection of Grand River/Dobie/Central Park and whether MDOT is planning a left turn arrow for north/south traffic. Deputy Manager Perry stated that MDOT did do a traffic study there and a left turn arrow is warranted. The issue now is budgeting. It will happen, we just are not sure when.

Treasurer Deschaine suggested there could be value for one or two joint meetings between the CIA and the TC annually. Specifically, the meeting with Chief Plaga regarding safety that will be held in a couple of months should be a joint meeting.

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

- September 23, 2020 at 6:00pm-Corridor Improvement Authority
- October 22, 2020 at 6:00pm-Transportation Commission

7. ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no objection, Chair Vagnozzi adjourned the meeting at 7:07pm.