



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
April 27, 2017 6:00 p.m.



1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. March 23, 2017

4. PUBLIC REMARKS

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Diana Paiz Engle

B. Andrew Brieschke, Director of Operations, CATA

6. PRESENTATION

A. Non-Motorized Transportation (Township Sidewalks, Pathways and Trails)

- o Derek Perry, Assistant Township Manager/Public Works and Engineering Director
- o LuAnn Maisner, Parks and Recreation Director

7. COMMISSION DISCUSSION/REVIEW

A. Pedestrian Safety Improvements

B. Audible Signals

8. COMMISSION COMMENTS

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. May 25, 2017 Meridian Municipal Building Town Hall Room

B. Future Meeting Dates

10. ADJOURNMENT

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

DRAFT

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2017

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chair Hackbarth, Vice-Chair Potter, Deschaine, Hudson, Kolbasa
and Vagnozzi

ABSENT: Commissioner Vaughn

STAFF: Ken Plaga, Assistant Chief of Police
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Deschaine moved to approve the agenda as written

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Potter moved to approve the minutes of February 23, 2017

Seconded by Commissioner Deschaine

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

4. Communications

The Commission accepted the communications that had been received and placed on file.

5. Presentation/Discussion

Chair Hackbarth welcomed Keith Simons PE, PTOE, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) and Bill Conklin, Managing Director, Ingham County Road Department (ICRD). He explained how the MTC was established and its purpose.

Keith Simons MDOT

- Five-Year Transportation Program (2017-2021)
- Region wide call for projects
- Seven Regions in the State
- 22 Transportation Service Centers (TSC) statewide
- Ingham County is in the University Region
- Projects are selected on road conditions and traffic volume

- Regions compete against each other for selection of projects
- Five-Year Transportation Program part of the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- State must have a STIP to receive Federal Transportation funding
- 80% of the money for State road projects comes from Federal Transportation funding
- MDOT staff monitor road conditions
- Best to call the Lansing TSC if there are road problems such as potholes
- 2017 projects, Grand River Avenue (M-43) Oak Pointe Court to Meridian Road crack treatment and Saginaw Highway (I-69 BL) Hagadorn to Lake Lansing crack treatment
- Saginaw Highway (I-69 BL) intersection improvements at Newton Road, Towner Road and Marsh Road design in 2018 with construction in 2019
- Construction on Grand River Avenue (M-43) is dependent on CATA's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project
- Would be difficult to install a mid-block pedestrian crossing on Grand River Avenue (M-43). Tom Fisher at TSC could answer questions regarding a mid-block crossing

Bill Conklin IRCD

- ICRD has two types of road classifications, Primary or Local
- Primary roads include roads such as Okemos, Marsh, Jolly and Haslett
- Improvements and maintenance of Primary roads are funded through Federal funding, State gas tax and vehicle registration fees
- Local Roads include roads such as Van Atta, Hatch, Cornell and Tihart
- Improvements and maintenance of Local roads are funded through State gas tax and vehicle registration fees
- Township can also contribute funding for improvements and maintenance of Local roads
- Federal and State funds come through Tri-County Regional Planning Commission (TCRPC) as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties
- Tri-County Regional Planning Commission has an approved Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) 2017-2020
- Several funding sources such as Surface Transportation Program (STP), Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (CMAQ), Transportation Alternatives (TA), Bridge Program and National Highway Performance Program
- 2017 project, Okemos/Jolly Road intersection improvements include construction of right turn lanes on three approaches of the intersection
- Construction will start mid-July and finish in Spring 2018
- During construction left turns at the intersection will be prohibited
- Jolly Oak Road, Woodlake Drive and University Park Drive will serve as alternate routes
- Construction cost is estimated at \$1.8 million
- A mid-block pedestrian crossing on Okemos Road south of Jolly Road would be difficult

- 2018 project, Jolly Road (Dobie to Meridian) re-construct and add four foot wide paved non-motorized surface on both sides of Jolly Road
- 2018 project, Lake Lansing Road (Hagadorn to Saginaw) resurface and add bike lanes. Possible road diet will reduce the 4 lanes of traffic to 3 lanes
- Road diets help reduce the speed of traffic and number of vehicle accidents
- 2019 project, Okemos Road (Mount Hope to Clinton) Replace two lane bridge with four lane bridge and associated road work
- Was not able to get necessary funding for bridge construction in 2019 but will reapply for 2020 funding
- Estimated construction cost for bridge and road was \$5,000,000
- If new bridge is constructed the existing camelback bridge could be used as a pedestrian bridge
- For potholes and other maintenance issues call the ICRD at 517-676-9722
- ICRD will provide approximately \$115,000 to the Township for local road funding in 2017
- Township is required to match the amount provided
- Township typically exceeds the match. 2017 Township Budget is \$250,000 from General Fund
- Township local road millage is expected to provide and additional \$407,500 for a total of \$657,500
- Only four miles of local roads can be resurfaced for \$657,500
- Township Board should consider increasing the .25 mil to 1 mil for the local road millage
- Local road millage was renewed in 2012 and runs until 2023
- With the increase in the gas tax and vehicle registration fees, the funding from ICRD could double in 2018

7. Public Remarks

- Leonard Provencher, stated the Commission represents the citizens of the Township. He asked that the packet information be available on the Township web page the Friday prior to the Commission meeting. He also asked the Commission to be more responsive to people with disabilities.
- Dianna Paiz Engle, asked about a document provided by Commissioner Hudson at the February 23, 2017 Transportation Commission meeting. She spoke to the communication from Donna Rose dated February 28, 2017. Ms. Engle gave two examples of trying to schedule a Redi-Ride with a four hour notice. She was successful in January but not successful in February.

8. Commission Comments

Commissioner Hudson moved to have public remarks at the beginning and end of each meeting

Seconded by Commissioner Kolbasa

- A person could speak twice to items of interest
- Public remarks should be limited to 3 minutes per person

- Support for having public remarks once either at the beginning or end of the meeting

Commissioner Hudson moved to amend her motion and have public remarks at the beginning of the meeting

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is April 27, 2017 in the Meridian Municipal Building Town Hall Room

10. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Commissioner Deschaine moved to adjourn the meeting

Seconded by Vice-Chair Potter

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Mark Kieselbach

From: Diana Paiz Engle <dianaofwarren@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Cc: Frank Walsh; Ronald Styka
Subject: For the Meridian Township Transportation Commission

Please consider the entirety of this e-mail as official comment for the Meridian Township Transportation Commission. The contact form for submitting official comment at <http://www.meridian.mi.us/index.asp?SEC=DBF5248A-65A9-4D6D-A6F4-1D5246F8404C&Type=SUPERFORMS> does not provide a complete list of township boards and commissions in the pulldown menu.

Dear Members of the Meridian Township Transportation Commission:

At the February 23, 2017, meeting, commission member Karla Hudson handed out to other commission members a print document that was not part of the packet posted online for that meeting. During the public comment period at the end of the meeting, I inquired about the ethics and legality of a commission member providing commissioners at an open meeting a document that has not also been provided to the public.

Someone responded that the document would be included with the packet for the March 23 meeting.

After reviewing the March 23 meeting packet, I could not identify any document as possibly being the document that was handed out at the previous meeting; I noted this during public comment. On March 29, I received an e-mail from Mark Kieselbach, supplying what he indicated was the "only material" that he was "aware of" that Mrs. Hudson handed out on February 23. As this document was provided to me personally without mention of whether it was or was not included in the March 23 packet or would be included with the April 27 packet, I am left wondering whether the commission or the township sees an obligation to the public to make public all documents that commissioners share with one another at an open meeting? An important question, since we learned at the March 23 meeting that there may have been gaps in members' understanding of e-mailing and open meetings rules.

Last, I include for the record a summary of my comments at the March 23 meeting:

I noted that I had not identified any document in the March 23 meeting packet that appeared to be the document in discussion above and that the February 23 minutes did not include my inquiry on the subject.

I asked, if as suggested by CATA board member Donna Rose that members of the township Transportation Commission would likely receive special treatment when scheduling a Redi-Ride, is the public to understand then that Ms. Rose receives such special treatment because of her influential position? Conversely, if the suggestion were true that special treatment is likely given to certain people to provide a favorable view of the Redi-Ride service, then how would Transportation Commissioner Hudson have any negative Redi-Ride experiences to report?

I reiterated that I do not support suggestions that the Redi-Ride service should travel outside Meridian Township boundaries. Currently, Meridian Township is the only municipality that earmarks funds for the township's Redi-Ride service. Do small business owners in the township want their township taxes to support a service that transports township residents to patronize competitors in municipalities that contribute no direct funding of the service?

I provided two examples on different days of attempts to schedule a Redi-Ride with four-hour notice - one successful, one not. The results do not trouble me, as I understand that any transportation that I do not own is a finite resource whose same-day availability when and where I want it cannot be guaranteed.

Mark Kieselbach

From: Andrew Brieschke <ABrieschke@cata.org>
Sent: Friday, March 31, 2017 5:18 PM
To: Mark Kieselbach
Cc: Sandy Draggoo; Craig Frazier
Subject: Meridian Redi-Ride Ride - Update

Good afternoon, Mark. I hope this email finds you well.

I wanted to let you know that I have been working with several CATA team members and we have set up a preliminary timeline for implementation of the same-day ride cancellations for Meridian Redi-Ride. Based on all the material we need to prepare and the time needed for proper notification sent to our customers, we are proposing a "go live" date of Monday, May 8. The notification letters to Redi-Ride customers will be placed in the mail on Friday, April 21. Please feel free to share this information with members of the Board and the Commission, as you deem appropriate.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly. Again, thank you for all your help in ushering this through the Transportation Commission and the Township Board. We believe this will be a significant improvement in the service to our great customers in Meridian!

Kind Regards,
Andrew

Andrew Brieschke

Director of Operations
Capital Area Transportation Authority – CATA
4615 Tranter Street | Lansing, MI 48910
Office: (517) 394-1100
Mobile: (517) 202-5419
abrieschke@cata.org



Mark Kieselbach

From: Tim Potter <flyingdutchman63@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 11, 2017 5:57 PM
To: Chris Hackbarth (chackbarth@mml.org); Phil Deschaine (phildeschaine@gmail.com); Phyllis Vaughn (Vaughnp8@yahoo.com); Karla Hudson (Hudson.kc@live.com); Jon Kolbasa (hiphomes@outlook.com); Steven Vagnozzi (svagnozzi@comcast.net); Mark Kieselbach; David Hall; Ronald Styka; Frank Walsh; Derek Perry
Subject: Agenda items for next Transp. Comm meetg

Some items I'd like to suggest for our agenda for our Apr. 27 meetg.

- Improvements around Twp. for enhancing pedestrian safety:

- Enhanced, safer mid-block crossings (esp. between Meijer and shopping/ restaurants/ bus stop on north side of Grand River Ave) - need assessment, review for others around the Twp. where ped activity is high (eg. Mt. Hope Rd. near cemetery [if south-side pathway isn't going to get constructed]). Explore necessary steps to opening official dialog with MDOT for making M-43 safer and inviting for people not just cars passing thru.
- Street light review around Twp., esp. at busy intersections (EG, new signal intersection at ALDI, Central Park and Marsh Rd.)
- Opportunity for improving safety of ped crossing Hagadorn Rd. w/ new Wilson Rd. extension north of RR tracks w/ construction starting Mar. '18 (need to figure out how to discourage peds crossing media just south of RR tracks or provide safe crossing there). MSU construction update re: Wilson extension project:
<https://youtu.be/Y-Li9zaaq3I?t=20m13s>
- Marking/ signing existing bike lanes in Twp. that ICRD has not marked or signed
- Review of other Twp roads that could be good candidates for bike lanes/ road diets
- Review of pathway projects for 2017/ 18 to help prioritize
- Update on the MSU - Lk. Lansing Pathway project (funding was approved recently)
- Update on Phase 3 of Inter-urban Pathway under the Marsh Rd. bridge

I hope others will suggest other items for our agenda.

Thanks,
 Tim

MSU Bike Advisory Comm. member
 Mer. Twp. Transportation Commission Vice Chair
 TCBA Advocacy Comm. member
 MDOT Univ. Region Non-Motorized Comm member
 Governor's Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety Action Team member
 Ride of Silence webmaster
 LCI #5207

Ride of Silence: www.rideofsilence.org

Wed., May 17, 2017, 7 PM
 One day. One time. One world, world wide.
 Let the silence roar.... The Ride of Silence

The 2016 Ride of Silence
 440 Locations World Wide
 50 U.S. States
 48 Countries

Mark Kieselbach

From: Karla Hudson <hudson.kc@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 8:13 AM
To: flyingdutchman63@gmail.com; Chris Hackbarth (chackbarth@mml.org); Phil Deschaine (phildeschaine@gmail.com); Phyllis Vaughn (Vaughnp8@yahoo.com); Jon Kolbasa (hiphomes@outlook.com); Steven Vagnozzi (svagnozzi@comcast.net); Mark Kieselbach; David Hall; Ronald Styka; Frank Walsh; Derek Perry
Subject: RE: Agenda items for next Transp. Comm meet

Hello,

I would also like to add to the agenda a discussion on Audible signal needs at the new intersection at Okemos and Jolly. Below is the communication Mark and I had with the road department on this topic. These systems are cheaper to install at the start of the project than to have to put them in later if a request occurs. Given that we have a high school that might have blind students near this area and a number of businesses this area is viable for individuals who are blind to consider for residents along with the CATA bus servicing the area.

Also, wondering if we might limit guest speakers to an hour in order that we might discuss some of our concerns as a group. The Road department took up most of our meeting last time and we had little time for discussion amongst ourselves.

Thanks.

Karla Hudson

From: Mark Kieselbach [mailto:Kieselbach@meridian.mi.us]
Sent: Wednesday, April 5, 2017 3:32 PM
To: Karla Hudson <hudson.kc@live.com>
Subject: RE: Question/concern for road department

Hi Karla,

Bill Conklin told me the Road Department protocol for installing audible signals is based on need at a given location. The audible signals were not planned as part of the improvements to the Okemos/Jolly intersection. He did say if there was a request or a report of a visually impaired person frequenting the crossings in need of the audible signals they would consider installing them.

Mark



A Prime Community

Mark Kieselbach
 Community Planning & Development Director
kieselbach@meridian.mi.us
 W 517.853.4506
 5151 Marsh Road | Okemos, MI 48864
meridian.mi.us

From: Karla Hudson [mailto:hudson.kc@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2017 10:33 AM

To: Mark Kieselbach <Kieselbach@meridian.mi.us>

Subject: Question/concern for road department

Hi Mark,

Wondering if you would be willing to pass this question on to the Ingham road department? After our March meeting I wanted to make certain the need for audible signals is being addressed in the work at Okemos and Jolly Road coming up this summer.

Thanks.

Karla Hudson

Audible pedestrian signals are now part of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and we have found them vitally important for many residents in our community. MSU has standardized on the Polara systems and the Road commission has also installed them in several other locations around town to great effect and appreciation by the blind/visually impaired community plus many others. As walkability is key in Meridian Township, we would like to confirm that these signals are a part of your plan since their inclusion at intersection design is most costs effective as compared to installing later. I will be interested to hear about the installation of these signals as part of the construction at Okemos and Jolly.



9. B

To: Meridian Transportation Commission
From: Mark Kieselbach
Mark Kieselbach, Director, Community Planning and Development
Date: April 20, 2017
Re: Future Meeting Dates

The Commission currently has meetings scheduled through June 2017. When the Township Board established the Commission, the Commission was to meet monthly for its first six months and at least bi-monthly thereafter. The Commission will need to approve a meeting schedule for the remainder of the year. I have reserved the Town Hall Room for Thursday nights at 6:00 p.m. for the following dates:

July 20
August 24
September 21
October 26
November 16
December 21