



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Transportation Commission
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, June 16, 2022 – Minutes – DRAFT

Members Present: Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioner Hudson (via Zoom), Commissioner Potter, and Trustee Sundland

Members Absent: Chair Vagnozzi, Commissioner Robertson, Commissioner Van Coevering

Others Present: Senior Planner Brian Shorkey, Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer, Planning Commissioner Bill McConnell

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Vice-Chair Lovell called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER POTTER TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY TRUSTEE SUNDLAND. MOTION PASSES 4-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – February 17, 2022

AFTER DISCUSSION, MINUTES APPROVED AS WRITTEN BY PROCLAMATION OF VICE-CHAIR LOVELL.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were received since the last meeting.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

None.

6. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

A. Township Funded Road Projects

Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer presented maps showing 2019 and 2021 PASER data and 2021 and 2022 local road projects. Discussion about township and county projects in 2022 and 2023. Discussion about the Towar Avenue and Lake Lansing Road project.

Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer said that road project bids are up 45% per mile in 2022 versus 2021 and that the Board has appropriated \$1.3 million in recover funds to road projects. Discussion of Okemos Road bridge and Grand River projects. Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer said that police enforcing local traffic only in Indian Hills. Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer said that the MSU to Lake Lansing trail project is going to bid next week. It is using a TAP grant and tree clearing has begun. Engineering is being done for Phase II from Grand River to Okemos.

B. Bicycle Friendly Community discussion

Senior Planner Shorkey summarized the Bicycle Friendly Community application in the packet and offered to begin the application process on behalf of the Commission. Senior Planner Shorkey said that he would bring the draft application to the Commission at their next meeting so that they could review it before submittal. After further discussion, Commissioner Potter moved to pursue the Bicycle Friendly Community status, seconded by Trustee Sundland. Motion approved 4-0.

C. Traffic Impact Study Draft Ordinance

Senior Planner Shorkey summarized the draft traffic impact study ordinance and asked the Commission if they had any comments. He said that the Planning Commission had received the ordinance favorably and that at the public hearing, Staff was asked to send it to the Transportation Commission for review. Commissioner Potter asked if the draft ordinance discussed bike or pedestrian traffic. Senior Planner Shorkey said that it did not, but that there were other ordinances that addressed non-motorized transportation. The Commission generally reviewed the draft ordinance favorably. After discussion, Commissioner Potter suggested that the Transportation Commission might have greater input on projects in the future.

D. General Commission Comments

Commissioner Potter discussed the Kinawa and Chippewa schools' Safe Routes to School projects and updated Commission on the status of their applications.

Vice-Chair Lovell commented on the sidewalk on Newton Road and pointed out that it stops short of the township parking lot by about 50 feet. Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer brought up the area on Google Maps and discussed. Director of Public Works Dan Opsommer said that the northern end of the sidewalk would be closed with a boardwalk when Sierra Ridge III is constructed. After further discussion, Senior Planner Shorkey said that he would look into the sidewalk gap between Rite Aid and Costco.

7. PROJECT UPDATES

No further comments.

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board

Trustee Sundland updated the Commission the Township Board's activities.

B. Planning Commission

Planning Commissioner McConnell updated the Commission on the Planning Commission's recent work and the potential ordinance amendments that are being worked on. Planning Commissioner McConnell spoke about the Environmental Commission's Climate Change plan update and said that the transportation element was being updated.

C. Chair

Vice-Chair Lovell spoke very highly of the late Supervisor Styka.

D. Staff

Senior Planner Shorkey had no update.

9. NEXT MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for July 21, 2022. Commissioner Potter asked about the Transportation Commission's meeting schedule. Senior Planner Shorkey confirmed that the Transportation Commission meets every other month and that the next meeting is in July and that the Transportation Commission would be back on schedule.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Lovell adjourned the meeting at 7:48 p.m.