



Charter Township of Meridian
Meridian Transportation Commission
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864
Thursday, September 22, 2022 – Minutes

Members Present: Chair Vagnozzi, Vice-Chair Lovell, Commissioner Robertson, and Commissioner Potter

Members Absent: Commissioner Hudson, Commissioner Van Coevering, and Trustee Sundland

Others Present: Senior Planner Shorkey, Director of Public Works Opsommer, Police Sergeant McCready, Planning Commissioner McConnell, and Planning Commission liaison Snyder

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER POTTER. MOTION PASSES 4-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – June 16, 2022

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROBERTSON TO APPROVE THE AGENDA. SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL. MOTION PASSES 4-0.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

No communications were received since the last meeting.

5. PUBLIC REMARKS

Planning Commissioner McConnell discussed an email that he had sent to the Transportation Commission and discussed the Master Plan update with the Transportation Commission. Senior Planner Shorkey said that he would forward the email to the correct person for action.

6. COMMISSION DISCUSSION

A. Lake Lansing Road Non-motorized Improvement Project

Neal Galehouse from the Ingham County Road Department gave a presentation about the Lake Lansing Road Non-motorized Improvement Project scheduled for 2023. Vice-Chair Lovell asked for clarification about pedestrian signals. Commissioner Robertson asked if the bidding for the project would be an RFP. Commissioner Potter asked if notices went out to bike advocacy groups as well as residents. Mr. Galehouse described the ICRD's outreach efforts. Vice-Chair reviewed a previous letter from the Tri-County Bike Association to ensure that their questions had been addressed.

Vice-Chair asked about the possibility of connecting a side trail to a nearby park. Wendy Longpre from East Lansing Parks Department said that it was possible that the City of East Lansing might pursue Safe Routes 2 School funds to connect the trail in the future. Vice-Chair Lovell asked if signage was going to be erected to discourage motorists from travelling through neighborhoods during the construction detour. Chair Vagnozzi asked Senior Planner Shorkey to advertise the ICRD's public hearing for the project on the Township's website.

Commissioner Potter suggested calling the project a 4 to 5 lane project since there are two bike lanes and asked if the bike lanes would be signed and marked. After discussion about the bike lanes, Director of Public Works Opsommer said that the Township would be willing to cost share if the bike lanes could be marked.

B. Bicycle Friendly Community update

Senior Planner Shorkey summarized the Bicycle Friendly Community application in the packet and informed the Transportation Commission that he was ready to send it. The Transportation Commission thanked Senior Planner Shorkey for his work. Vice-Chair Lovell said that he looks forward to the application feedback and would not consider it a loss if they did not receive an award. Mr. Shorkey said that he expected to present the feedback from the League of Bicyclists no earlier than the January 2023 meeting.

C. Redi-Ride Relocation Discussion

Chair Vagnozzi followed up this item from the July CATA presentation. CATA was willing to swap Redi-Ride locations from the unused Aquatic Center stop to the McClaren Hospital on Collins Road. Chair Vagnozzi asked Director of Public Works Opsommer what steps needed to be taken to ask the Board to officially request CATA to swap the sites. Director of Public Works Opsommer said that a simple motion would suffice.

AFTER DISCUSSION, MOTION BY VICE-CHAIR LOVELL TO REQUEST THE BOARD TO ASK CATA TO EXTEND SERVICE TO THE MCCLAREN HOSPITAL COMPLEX AND CEASE SERVICE TO THE EAST LANSING AQUATIC CENTER. SUPPORTED BY CHAIR VAGNOZZI. MOTION PASSES 4-0.

D. General Commission Comments

Commissioner Potter asked about CATA shuttle service on Grand River during construction. Director of Public Works Opsommer said that CATA had resumed normal bus service in July. General discussion about pedestrian access on Grand River.

Commissioner Potter asked about a recent pedestrian fatality and if anything was being done. Sergeant McCreedy said that the accident was the fault of the pedestrian and that no changes to traffic were planned.

Chair Vagnozzi commented about faded ‘No Enter’ signs and Director of Public Works Opsommer said that they could discuss them after the meeting. Commissioner Potter said that people are being observed going the wrong way in Tacoma Hills. Commission Robertson asked about a recent fatality at Haslett and Marsh. Director of Public Works Opsommer pointed out that was a motor vehicle crash and didn’t involve any pedestrians. Commissioner Potter asked for an update on the Lake Lansing to MSU trail.

7. PROJECT UPDATES

A. MDOT M-43 Project update

Director of Public Works Opsommer updated the Transportation Commission on the Grand River project.

B. Okemos Road Project update

Director of Public Works Opsommer updated the Transportation Commission on the Okemos Road bridge project.

C. Local Roads and Other Construction Projects update

Director of Public Works Opsommer updated the Transportation Commission on the local road projects.

D. Railroad Quiet Zone update

Director of Public Works Opsommer updated the Transportation Commission on the railroad quiet zone project.

8. REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Township Board

Director of Public Works Opsommer updated the Transportation Commission on the recent Board activities.

B. Planning Commission

Senior Planner Shorkey updated the Transportation Commission about the Haslett Village project. Commissioner Snyder updated the Transportation Commission about recent Planning Commission activities.

C. Chair

Chair Vagnozzi said that the bike lane signs on Kinawa Drive are faded. Senior Planner Shorkey said that he would look into the issue.

D. Staff

Commissioner Potter asked Director of Public Works Opsommer for an update on the Meridian and Grand River intersection project. Director of Public Works Opsommer said that project was pushed to 2023 to coordinate with the rest of the Grand River project. Commission Potter asked Sergeant

McCready about a recent accident at Hamilton and Grand River. Sergeant McCready said that there was no increase in accidents that require action.

9. NEXT MEETING DATES

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for November 17, 2022.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Vagnozzi adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.