

UPPER MERION TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
August 11, 2021 Meeting – 7:00PM

The members of the Upper Merion Transportation Authority met for their regular meeting on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 in the Administration Board Room at the Upper Merion Township Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE:

Tom Kohler, Chair
Andrew Bahmueller, Vice Chair
Carlton Stuart, Secretary
Marvin Meneeley, Treasurer
Lou Zotti, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Anthony Hamaday, Executive Secretary
Noah Marlier, Solicitor, Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell, & Lupin, PC
Jack Smyth, Engineer, Boles, Smyth Associates, Inc.
Geoff Hickman, Director of Public Works
Rob Erickson, Hughes Park Civic Association
Eileen Justin, Crooked Lane, Hughes Park

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

It was moved by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, all voting “Aye” to approve the meeting minutes of July 14,2021 as submitted. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Presentation- Renaissance Park Pedestrian Gateway Project – KOP BID

Chris Basler with the King of Prussia Business Improvement District, presented to the Authority a proposed plan for the improvement of the existing pedestrian access way from Renaissance Blvd to Crooked Lane. Mr. Basler indicated that approximately 184 pedestrians utilize the pathway daily to go to the Hughes Park Trolley Station. The proposed improvements will include new walkway, benches and refuse containers, lighting and way finding signage from the renaissance Blvd cul-de-sac to Crooked Lane. The proposed apartment development of 2901 Renaissance Blvd will provide crosswalk improvements on Crooked lane with may include a rapid flashing pedestrian beacon. There will be no vehicular access although the area is designated as an emergency access point to the renaissance Business Park. Mr. Rob Erickson, Hughes Park Civic Association informed the Authority that the BID did share the plan with the neighbors. The Authority members had no issue with the proposal since it is on private property.

B. Mancill Mill Road Townhouse Development - Act 209 Fee Waiver Request

Mr. Joseph Brion, attorney for the Mancill Mill Road Developers, provided an overview of the proposed townhouse development on Mancill Mill Road and the discussions he has been having with the Board of Supervisors on temporary off-site improvements that the developer is willing to make at the intersection of Mancill Mill and Valley Forge Road. The improvements would provide for road widening to create an eastbound turn lane into Mancill Mill Rd as well as a temporary traffic signal. Mr. Brion indicated that the developer would be willing to perform the

improvements with funds that would be normally be paid as a part of their Transportation impact fee for the project but since Act 209 Fees can't be used for off-site improvements, The Authority would have to agree to waive the fee. The developer and the Township have been discussing the offsite improvements as part of the sites development process and would enter into an agreement to have the offsite improvements performed as part of the land development for the property. Mr. Brion indicated that the cost of the temporary improvements is approximately \$491,000 and the projected Act 209 fees would be \$249,000. The developer would fund the difference.

Mr. Zotti indicated that he was not in favor of granting such a request and question whether any of the temporary improvements could be incorporated into Penn Dot's future valley Forge Road widening project. Mr. Smyth indicated that perhaps very limited signal elements might be saved but most of the widening and road relocation takes place beyond the current Mancill Mill Road location. Mr. Kohler indicated that he was also not in favor and asked about the status of PennDot's project. Mr. Smyth suggested that final design is about 24 months away and the project is at least 5 years away. Mr. Bahmueller asked if there were any other temporary options for the intersection that could be performed without the developer needing to use any impact fees. Mr. Phillips suggested that the intersection is a safety issue and the Supervisors are very concerned about additional traffic traveling through the intersection. The Authority took no action on the request and agreed to have Mr. Smyth take a look at the temporary improvements and asked Mr. Hamaday to provide the plans to Mr. Smyth.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

None

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Smyth informed the Authority that he will have the Act 209 Update Consultant proposals for the September meeting for review and selection by the Authority. Mr. Smyth also presented status updates for the following projects: Relocated North Gulph Road, Church Road Bridge over SEPTA Route 100 Line, Prince Frederick Extension, and the Potential New PATK Interchange at Henderson Road (Project Status report attached).

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

None

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Mr. Hickman informed the Authority that the Township will be awarding the 2021 Road Program to Glasgow Inc and that 12 roads are scheduled to be repaved.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT:

None

REQUISITIONS:

It was moved by Mr. Meneeley, seconded by Mr. Bahmueller, all voting "Aye" to approve the August 11, 2021 requisitions in the amount of \$273,224. None opposed. Motion approved 5-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Rob Erickson, Hughes Park Civic Association addressed the Authority and indicated that while there has been a decrease in truck traffic on Crooked Lane, they are still present and causing problems. He suggested that the middle of the day is the most prolific and should be the target for enforcement. Mr. Erickson indicated that school will be in session soon and asked about the possibility of an additional crosswalk on Crooked lane at Lawndale Avenue.

Eileen Justin, Crooked lane, also addressed the Authority on the truck traffic issue and agreed with Mr. Erickson on the need for an additional crosswalk for children and parents walking to the elementary school and park.

The Authority discussed the possibility of extending the sidewalk along Crooked Lane from Lawndale to the Renaissance Pedestrian Accessway. Mr. Hickman and Mr. Hamaday will look into the possibility.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Authority, on a motion by Mr. Zotti, seconded by Mr. Meneeley, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

THOMAS KOHLER
CHAIR