

Citizens Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 8, 2025 • 6:30 PM • Municipal Center Rooms 220/221

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS AND STAFF PRESENT: Chris Haughey, Jeff McCard, Rowland Myers, Assistant Township Manager Nick Valla, Public Works Director Eric Gartenmayer, Captain Peter Feeney, Lieutenant Zach Brosius, Taylor Wrazen (Pennoni).

MEMBERS AND STAFF ABSENT: Bill Everett, James Flynn, Matt Johnston (Pennoni).

3. Approval of Minutes

Members approve minutes of April 8, 2025, meeting by consensus.

4. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)

Linda Pascali, Summit Trace, inquired again about visibility and pedestrian safety concerns on Summit Trace Road. She shared a story of a young woman with a baby walking on the roadway.

Mr. Gartenmayer reported that his team trimmed some brush back in the spring, but noted the overgrowth in question is private property.

Mr. Valla and Mr. Gartenmayer will look further into the issue.

Ms. Pascali offered to speak with the owner of the property in question.

5. Activity Since Previous Meeting

a. Automated School Bus Enforcement Program

Mr. Valla reported that in June, the Board of Supervisors authorized an agreement with Neshaminy School District to implement this program. Violators are subject to a state-set \$300 civil penalty. The program is expected to begin in the fall.

6. Old Business

a. Brownsville Road Bridge Replacement and Detour Plan

Mr. Valla shared that since the last meeting, he's received a complaint or two from neighbors on or near Hollywood Avenue about traffic entering their neighborhood due to the closure of the Brownsville Road Bridge over the Neshaminy Creek. Mr. Valla shared that the Commission previously considered temporary traffic calming measures during construction.

Captain Feeney shared that increased volume is not enforceable, and that the complaints are likely from the neighbors who just don't want the extra traffic in their neighborhood.

No further action was recommended.

b. SR-413 north of Bridgetown Pike – Speed Limit Reduction Request

Captain Feeney shared that this area is a high-accident roadway, but that the accidents are rarely speed-related. He shared that in 10 years, there are 654 accidents on Langhorne-Newtown Road (SR-413) from the Bridgetown Pike intersection moving north. Only three accidents were reported to have speeding noted as a potential factor in the accident. Captain Feeney shared that he believes the present speed limit is appropriate. He did note that while the speed limit was reduced further north near the George School, this was due to the installation of a pedestrian signal. He added that there is often too much traffic in this area to even reach the speed limit.

Mr. McCard and Mr. Haughey questioned why the Township would refer it the matter to PennDOT to investigate if there is not data to demonstrate a speed-related issue.

No further action was recommended.

c. Alberts Way – Traffic Calming Request

Captain Feeney shared that the Police Department could not conduct a study due to the lack of a pole to mount the study device on. However, he did report that there is no accident history in the past ten years on this segment of Alberts Way.

No further action was recommended.

7. New Business

a. Langhorne Gardens (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets) – Traffic Calming Request

Mr. Valla shared he received a complaint from an elderly woman expressing concern for her grandchildren's safety in the Langhorne Gardens neighborhood. He did clarify with her that while she has concerns on 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Streets, she did not mention a concern with 4th Street, which has signalized access to Woodbourne Road.

Mr. Gartenmayer noted that the streets are narrow and there are often parked cars, which make speeding less likely.

Captain Feeney shared that since there have been other complaints in this neighborhood in the past, it may be worth conducting a brief study to have data for future complaints.

The Police Department will conduct a speed study and report back to the Commission.

b. Sunflower Avenue – School Bus Traffic

Mr. Valla shared that a daycare on Sunflower Avenue recently went through the land development process for an expansion plan. During the Planning Commission meeting, a concern about school bus traffic arose that was referred to the Citizens Traffic Commission. It was reported that the daycare is dissatisfied with the number of school busses that travel on Sunflower Avenue. Mr. Valla noted that Sunflower Avenue is the last connecting street between Poplar Street and Highland Avenue, two main east-west roads in the Parkland section.

Captain Feeney shared that the school district sets the bus routes and bus drivers cannot deviate from them. The presence of school busses is not inherently an issue.

No further action was recommended.

c. Poplar Street and Hulmeville Road – Stop Sign Request

Mr. Valla shared that a resident inquired about either (1) making this intersection an all-way stop, or (2) moving the stop sign and stop bar on the eastern approach of Poplar Street closer to the intersection. Mr. Valla noted that the request stems from a code enforcement issue relating to visibility due to a shrub at the intersection.

Captain Feeney expressed concern about adding stop signs to Hulmeville Road, a PennDOT road. He noted that even if the Township wanted to advance the matter, it requires PennDOT approval. The Commission agreed that additional stop signs would not be appropriate.

Mr. Gartenmayer added that he spoke with the traffic engineer who said moving the stop sign and stop bar closer to the intersection is possible. The Commission agreed that this would be the better solution.

Public Works will move the stop bar and stop sign closer to the intersection.

d. Poplar Street – Traffic Calming Request

Mr. Valla reported another concern about speeding along Poplar Street in front of Firefighters' Park. He noted that there is about a 500-foot stretch between Hulmeville Road and the stop sign at Parkvale Avenue, and it is unlikely to be long enough for drivers to reach an enforceable speed.

The Police Department agreed to monitor the area for enforcement.

e. Bridgetown Pike – Consider Requesting PennDOT to Conduct a Study

Mr. Valla received an inquiry from a resident requesting traffic calming and pedestrian access along Bridgetown Pike near the Core Creek Park access. Mr. Valla advised the resident that the nearby intersection with Langhorne-Yardley Road is closed due to construction for the summer, and that PennDOT is unlikely to study the area until after construction is complete.

The Commission agreed not to take action at this time until after PennDOT's intersection construction is complete.

f. Paxson Lane – Traffic Calming Request

Mr. Valla received several complaints from residents on Paxson Lane in the Highland Gate neighborhood about cars speeding in their neighborhood. Mr. Valla noted that he received a rash of complaints shortly after a tree fell and blocked Woodbourne Road near Styers, resulting in cars using their street as an unofficial detour for a few days.

He added that this issue arose previous with residents warning of an anticipated surge in traffic once construction at Langhorne-Yardley Road and Woodbourne Road began. He did clarify that traffic flow will be maintained throughout construction.

Captain Feeney reported that in ten years, there have been seven accidents on Paxson Lane, most of which are car mirror strikes and people backing out from their driveways into traveling vehicles.

The Police Department will conduct a speed study and report back to the Commission.

g. Pennswood Village – Pedestrian Facilities

Mr. Gartenmayer received a concern about pedestrian access for workers of Pennswood Village. There is a bus stop for SEPTA route 130 across the street from the property at the signalized intersection on Langhorne-Newtown Road (SR-413), but there are not any pedestrian accommodations at the bus stop or connecting to the property.

Ms. Pascali asked if the SEPTA bus could drive onto the property to drop workers off or if Pennswood Village could provide a shuttle bus. Mr. Valla said that both options are not within the Township's control.

Mr. Valla noted that this issue came up about two years ago through the State Representative's office and that the Township referred the issue back to SEPTA and PennDOT since it pertains to both their service areas.

No further action was recommended.

8. Other Business

a. None.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2025.