

Citizens Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 27, 2022 • 6:30 PM • Executive Conference Room

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:28 PM.

2. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chris Haughey, Jeff McCard, Bill Everett, James Flynn, Assistant Township Manager Nick Valla, Public Works Superintendent Eric Gartenmayer, Captain Peter Feeney, Sergeant Mark McLeod, Officer Jeffrey Wagner, Steve Gozur (Traffic Planning & Design).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sally Miller.

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Helen Cravener (Parkland).

3. Approval of Minutes

Members approve minutes of July 12, 2022 meeting by consensus.

4. Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items Only)

None.

5. Old Business

a. Activity since last meeting

i. Periwinkle Avenue

Sergeant Mark McLeod reported that Middletown Township Police observed traffic on Periwinkle Avenue and did not observe any significant speeding. The traffic monitoring device malfunctioned during this study and is in the process of being replaced.

ii. Windybush Line Painting

Superintendent Eric Gartenmayer shared that the line painting planned for the Windybush development has been completed. The roadway is now striped to indicate the proper direction of traffic entering the development and approaching the one-way loop. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

6. New Business

a. Frosty Hollow Road/Juniper Drive Pedestrian Safety

Assistant Township Manager Nick Valla shared he received an additional complaint about the safety of the new county-installed bridge over Mill Creek along Frosty Hollow Road between Upper Orchard and Juniper Hill in Levittown. He shared that the old bridge had a guiderail-protected sidewalk. The new sidewalk does not have this barrier, but is built to ADA-standards, which was not the case before. Others shared that adding delineators would give pedestrians a false sense of security. No further action was recommended.

b. Prospect Avenue/Avenue E Stop Sign

Ms. Helen Cravener, 1026 Prospect Avenue, shared her concerns about an increase in erratic drivers on her street in Parkland. She has lived at her home for fifty years and is concerned about someone speeding and crashing into her home which is situated close to the roadway. She is requesting the intersection be changed from a two-way stop to a four-way stop, or for speed humps to be added.

Captain Pete Feeney stated that he does not recall accidents at this intersection, but agreed to run an accident history report. He also shared that a study can be performed in this area to better identify the speeding allegations.

Steve Gozur, Traffic Planning & Design, stated stop signs are not technically intended to mitigate speed, but rather are intended to control traffic approaching intersections.

Mr. Valla added that since other intersections in this neighborhood have two-way stops, other intersections may need to be evaluated should a speeding issue be substantiated by the study.

The Police Department will conduct a traffic study and share the findings with the CTC.

c. Snowball Drive Stop Signs

Mr. Valla shared he received a request for stop signs along Snowball Drive near the Trenton Road and Frosty Hollow Road entrances, similar to what was done near the SR 413 entrances to Snowball Gate. The resident did not cite speeding as a concern, but said the stop signs added near SR 413 were effective safety improvements.

Captain Feeney shared that the current design of the greenways separating Snowball Drive from Trenton Road and Frosty Hollow Road does not allow for stacking to occur as cars try to exit the development. There is a wider greenway along SR 413, which is why this solution was identified.

Superintendent Gartenmayer suggested adding a "Don't Block the Box" marking to these entrances, but stated the greenways being so shallow would limit their effectiveness.

No further action was recommended.

d. Update on 2023 Transportation Capital Improvement Projects

Mr. Valla shared the planned projects in the Transportation section of the 2023 Capital Improvement Plan.

7. Open Floor

a. Madison Avenue

Superintendent Gartenmayer stated he received a complaint from a resident who lives on Madison Avenue in Langhorne Gables who reported her and her husband's cars being hit while parked along the street. The woman is seeking to have the centerline moved over to one side as it once was.

Mr. Valla shared that upon further investigation, the Township's ordinances currently prohibit parking along both sides of the entirety of Madison Avenue. One side of the street is poorly signed, including some faded signs, while the other side of the street does not appear to be signed at all.

Captain Feeney said they do not usually receive complaints in this area about parking and therefore do not typically enforce here. He noted that satellite and street-view images show several parked cars. He recommended notifying the residents along this street that parking is prohibited, allow for a 30-day grace period, fix the signage, and begin enforcement after that time. Mr. Valla stated he would look further into the issue and discuss it with the Township Manager.

b. Fulling Mill/Ellis Road

Bill Everett shared he spoke with a resident who expressed concern over the visibility on the curve of Fulling Mill Road into Ellis Road. He shared the large trees to the northeast impede motorists trying to turn left from Ellis Road into Core Creek Park. He also shared there appears to be a missing speed limit sign along Fulling Mill Road, and that speeding is often an issue.

Captain Feeney shared he ran the accident history and found six accidents in the last ten years, four of which were due to slippery road conditions and speeding vehicles. He suggested a speed study on Fulling Mill could be performed to look for speed issues along Fulling Mill Road.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 10, 2023.