

APPROVED

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
MERIDIAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION (MTC)
MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioners: Chair Hackbarth, Vice-Chair Potter, Hudson, Vagnozzi, Deschaine,
Kolbasa and Beavers

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Dave Hall, Chief of Police
Mark Kieselbach, Director of Community Planning and Development

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Hackbarth called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vice-Chair Potter moved to approve the agenda as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Potter moved to approve the minutes of November 16, 2017 as written.

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

4. Public Remarks

Leonard Provencher stated his concerns with the Michigan Department of Transportation proposed improvements at the Saginaw Highway intersections with Newton Road, Towner Road and Marsh Road. He would like to see a pedestrian and cyclist crossing at Newton Road and Towner Road. He also spoke to the need for a signal pedestrian crossing on Okemos Road at the east off ramp and west on ramp at I-96.

5. Communications

The Commission accepted the communications that had been received and placed on file.

6. Presentation/Discussion

A. Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)-I-69BL Corridor Improvement Projects

Chair Hackbarth welcomed Will Thompson, Lansing TSC Manager and Tom Fischer, Lansing TSC Operations Engineer. A copy of the presentation is on file.

- Improvement projects include three intersections: Saginaw Highway (I-69BL) at Marsh Road, Newton Road and Towner Road.
- Project goals include safety, congestion mitigation and non-motorized access
- Alternative analysis was done with “J-Turns” being the best choice
- Considerable delay for left turns during morning and afternoon peak periods at Marsh Road
- A total of 80 crashes occurred at Marsh Road
- 32 of the 80 crashes resulted from vehicular movements that will be eliminated with the proposed project
- A total of 10 crashes occurred at Newton Road and a total of 7 crashes occurred at Towner Road
- 13 of the 17 crashes resulted from vehicular movements that will be eliminated with the proposed project
- Completion of plans in 2018 with construction in 2019
- Saginaw can handle the increase in traffic related to new development along the corridor
- Included in the presentation was a Z-style pedestrian/bike crossing for the proposed Marsh Road/I-69 BL intersection. MDOT staff agreed the proposed Z crossing could be modified to have crossings at the northeast and southwest corners to allow for safe pedestrian/bike movements in those directions as well
- A safe non-motorized pathway through the median at Newton Road/I-69 BL was part of a modified plan requested by the Township, area residents and advocates. MDOT staff indicated they were waiting to hear from Township staff on which side of Newton Road to align with the pathway through the median
- No non-motorized pathway was being planned through the median at Towner Road/I-69 BL

7. Commission Discussion/Review

A. Continue Redi-Ride Discussion

- Need to identify the areas where service is needed but is outside of the current service area
- Areas such as the Meijers in Bath, Costco, MSU Clinical Center, south side of Jolly Road near the Okemos Road intersection and the 425 areas in the Township

Commissioner Vagnozzi moved the Transportation Commission recommend the Township Board instruct CATA to expand the Redi-Ride service area to include all areas in the Township covered by a 425 agreement, Costco, Michigan State University Clinical Center and the Bath Township Meijer. Seconded by Commissioner Hudson

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

Trustee Dan Opsommer provided additional information on Redi-Ride service expansion grant opportunities. A copy of the material is on file.

- The new proposal for expanded service includes 8-9 a.m. morning service Monday – Friday and 5-7 p.m. evening service Monday-Friday

- Due to the time the Commission was not able to complete its discussion on this item

8. Commission Comments

None

9. Next Meeting Dates

- Commission's next meeting is February 15, 2018, Central Fire Station Community Room
- Township Board's next meeting is January 23, 2018

10. Adjournment

Chair Hackbarth called for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Commissioner Deschaine moved to adjourn the meeting

Seconded by Commissioner Vagnozzi

VOICE VOTE: Motion carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.