

COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2020

Present: Bibbianna Dussling, Mark Kirchgasser, John McMullan, Meredith Merino, Jamie Jilozian, Joe Damico, Jr., Esq., Andy Parker

ROADS, HIGHWAYS, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

A. Printers Way East (Loop Road)

Mr. James Buckler, representing Riddlewood and Sunnybrae Homeowners Association, stated he met with the association several months ago and a number of questions were raised about the impact of the loop road with their community. Mr. Kirchgasser stated Mrs. Powell made a list of questions and Mr. McMullan stated he received the list. Mr. Kirchgasser stated in 2013, the Township determined there were several traffic problem-spots, one being Rte. 452 and Rte. 1. He said it is the only way people from Chester County get to I-95. He stated PADOT is not doing anything to correct this problem anytime soon. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the Township did a traffic study and the loop road was suggested as a way to uncork the intersection. He stated this will provide a smoother flow of traffic without people using Riddlewood as a cut through.

Mr. Andy Parker, Traffic Engineer, presented an on-line presentation of the loop road project. He noted the proposed plan will improve access to CVS and Chick-fil-A. Mr. Parker stated the proposed trail will connect to the new trail leading to the train station. Mr. Buckler asked if he has any traffic projections. Mr. Parker stated during peak hours north bound vehicles number approximately 500 an hour with south bound handling approximately 300 vehicle an hour. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the loop road will allow for additional storage space for vehicles and said the signal at east and west Printers Way can be timed to make the flow of traffic easier. Mr. Parker stated the improvements will not increase the volume of traffic. He stated PADOT has plans years down the road and the loop road will not become obsolete but will be a part of the proposed PADOT plan.

Ms. Tiffany McClure Rishel, McCormack Taylor, stated W. Printers Way leads to the Wawa and then on to Thomas Chevrolet and there will be a signal at Rt. 452 and Printers Way. She stated the entrance to the CVS and Chick-fil-A will be signaled for left turn only. She stated the loop road will restrict trucks except for deliveries to CVS and Chick-fil-A. Ms. McClure Rishel stated there will be a sound mitigation fence and landscaping. Mr. Buckler asked about the design of the fence. Mr. Dan Mallach, Comitta Associates, stated the fence is a composite of various types of plastic to form a solid barrier to mitigate sound. Mr. Buckler asked how tall the fence will be and Mr. Mallach stated 6 feet tall. Mr. Buckler asked if the fence can be taller, and Mr. Mallach stated it could be 8 feet tall as well. Ms. McClure Rishel stated the 8-foot fence will look more like a wall than a fence. Mr. Buckler asked if a sound study was performed and Ms. McClure Rishel stated there was no study done but based on past experience, this is the preferred plan. Mr. Buckler asked for the decibel measurements based on before and after the fence is installed and Ms. McClure Rishel stated she will get the numbers for him. Mr. Damico stated highway sounds are generated by speed. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the Township does not want to encumber the residents and wants to look into the 6-foot fence as opposed to the 8-foot fence and Mr. Buckler asked what the

difference in noise between the 6- or 8-foot fence. Ms. Dussling asked if there is a consideration for light mitigation and Mr. Parker stated he will look into this. Ms. Dussling asked if additional trees will be added, and Mr. Parker stated he will look into it.

Mr. Clayton Thomas, 9 Man O' War Drive, asked where the fence will start, and this was pointed out to him on the plan. Mr. Ross Gilbert, 21 Man O'War Drive, stated the noise and lights are the main problems and Mr. Parker stated if they extend the fence it will help with eliminating the headlights. Mr. Herb Jackson, representing Rocky Run Fire Company, asked about where the fence will be located in conjunction to the firehouse as they have bunk rooms where some firefighters will be sleeping. Mr. Kirchgasser stated they have taken this into consideration and Mr. Parker stated the traffic will not be moving fast because of the stop sign. Ms. MacIntosh asked about the fencing and Mr. Parker stated the fence is a Certainteed pro-level product and costs between \$4,000 - \$5,000. He stated the key is proper installation requiring at least 3 people to install. He stated the material is easy to clean and is very low maintenance. Mr. Gilbert stated Riddlewood is a walkable community and asked if the fence will be a barrier. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the trail will tie together and there will be a minimal effect on open space. Ms. McClure Rishel stated there will not be any lighting along the 10-foot wide multi use trail.

Mr. Stuart Isaacs, 11 Overlook Circle, asked if this will make it hard to exit his street as well as Hunters Lane and Mr. Kirchgasser stated the traffic light will create gaps. Mr. Parker stated once the light has been installed, they can make adjustments and he stated the stop sign will prevent a constant flow. Mr. Isaacs asked if the timing of the signal will include the signal at Lenni Road and Mr. Parker stated they will make any adjustments needed.

Ms. McClure Rischel stated there will be a new entrance to the CVS with a designated right turn lane on north bound Rte. 452. Mr. Baldini asked if they are able to turn into the post office from W. Printers Way and Mr. Kirchgasser stated the Township is in negotiations with Flick Brothers and Mrs. Biordi to create an entrance. Mr. Isaacs asked how many cars will be on W. Printers Way and Pennell at the new traffic light and Mr. Parker stated approximately 5-6 cars. Mr. Parker stated the signals on north bound Rte. 1 will be coordinated with all other signals. Ms. Dussling asked the impact of War Admiral Lane and Mr. Parker stated War Admiral Lane will only be using a right turn onto north bound Rte. 1. Ms. Rishel stated there will not be any trucks except deliveries to CVS and Chick-fil-A. Mr. Isaacs asked if timing the lights will improve overall traffic and Mr. Parker stated this will not solve everything but the objective is to get both lanes south bound cleared. Mr. Gilbert stressed the most important thing is safety. Ms. MacIntosh asked if the light at Rte. 452 and the light at Rte. 1 is red, will this cause more of a hazard with cars jumping into other lanes. Mr. Parker stated that once a vehicle is in the left turn lane, there is no incentive to leave the lane. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the loop road has enough space to take cars out of the stack.

Mr. Andrew Marzano, 30 Soldier Song Lane, asked if an animated version of the presentation is available. Mr. Parker stated he is not aware of one. Mr. Marzano asked if there will be signs and Mr. Kirchgasser stated there will be "no trucks" signs installed.

Mr. Ben Preddy, Rampart East stated since there are 6 traffic signals in a 1/2-mile run, would a simulation model be more helpful. Mr. Kirchgasser stated the object is to leave lights green longer to keep the traffic staying longer on Baltimore Pike than on residents' streets.

Mr. Jeff Bayer, 61 War Admiral Lane, asked about the water in the existing basin. Ms. McClure Rischel said the basin will hold water and slowly discharge into the basin inlet. Mr. Gilbert asked if the basin would drain to the creek and Mr. Kirchgasser stated there will be an improved stormwater plan. Ms. Dussling asked if there will be a reduction of runoff and Ms. McClure Rischel stated there will be a reduction of runoff. Mr. Parker stated there are similar projects located at Painters Crossing and Newtown Square. He assured residents that nothing will be built on residents' property and there are 9 acres of Township open space to encroach upon. Mr. Parker stated the open space remaining will be dedicated to the Riddlewood/Sunnybrae Homeowners Association. Mr. Buckler stated he will be meeting with the directors of the association to talk about how to proceed.

Mr. Kirchgasser asked if Mr. Gilbert and Mr. Thomas would like to walk the fence line and gave his contact information. Mr. Buckler stated he would like to talk with Mr. Mallach to get more detailed information about the fence. Mr. Kirchgasser thanked the members of the public for their feedback.

Mr. Kirchgasser adjourned the meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Browne