

Allentown

*435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101*



Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

12:15 PM

Council Chambers

<https://rebrand.ly/ACPC-MAY-14>

(717) 740-2323

Conference ID: 683 187 779#
Planning Commission

Call to Order

Attendance:

- APCP Board Members: Chris Brown (Chair), Jeff Glazier, Kelly Holzman, Erich Hornung
- City Staff Members: Jennifer Gomez, Priscilla Reyes, Adam Rosenthal, Melissa Velez, Jesus Sadiua, Mike Lichty, Daren Martocci (KCE, Consultant) David Alban, (KCE, Consultant)
- Others present: Chris Stanford, Michael Baker International (MBI), Christine Frey, PennDOT 5-0, Rob Piligian, Bascom & Sieger, Inc., Nicolas Fulton, Megan Braemore, Ed Mirfin, Jim Spang.

1. Approval of Minutes of Public Meeting of April 9th.

Approval of minutes - No comments, corrections. Unanimously approved as written.

EXTENSION REQUEST

2. **Project:** Major Subdivision
Submission: Extension of timeline - reinstatement
Applicant: John Troxell, Jr.
Location: 893-905 Graham Street
File #: SMA-2021-00002

J. Gomez provided the Commission with an overview of the reinstatement and a request for an extension of 2 years. Rob Piligian, representing the applicant, presented the extension request on behalf of the applicant. The commission granted the reinstatement and 2 Year extension to allow the applicant time to meet the conditions of approval. The motion passed unanimously.

STREET VACATION

3. **Applicants:** Diane Schmidt, Jonathan Andrews, and Nicolas Fulton
Location: N. Elizabeth Street from Wayne Street (vacated) to Monroe Street
Description: Elizabeth Street appears to have never been an active street behind applicant's properties. Applicants would like to add this land to their properties, since they maintain it.
File: 24-02 (V)

LAND DEVELOPMENT

4. Project: Riverside Drive Raise Grant - Extension**Applicant:** PennDot - Christine Frey**Location:** 4 Jordan Drive (Riverside Drive - Furnace Street to City Line)**Description:** New roadway and trail - Riverside Drive - Furnace Street to city line.**File:** LMA 2024-00003

J. Gomez presented the Riverside Drive Extension project including specifications, roadway widths, intersection configurations as well as the proposed parallel walkway. Plan details were discussed as well as an overview of waivers that have been previously granted by the Commission. Staff and city department reviews and recommendations were shared with the Commission.

C. Stanford of MBI presented updates on the proposed extension including a non-paved, stone walkway up to bridge street. (within Whitehall Twp.) and noted that the trail would be owned and maintained by Lehigh County, while roadways would be owned and maintained by the City of Allentown and Whitehall Twp. C. Stafford also presented standard cross-sections including the roadway and trail configuration. Stormwater management discussion was limited.

Finally, Chris updated the Commission on the project approval, design, and construction scheduling, estimating construction beginning in 2027. Pointing out that their goal is to address as many comments as possible prior to passing it off to the Design/build team.

The Commission inquired about the residual property on east side of riverside drive north of American parkway, and if access would be provided from Riverside or American Parkway. The applicant's engineer pointed out that they will be working in this condition through with City staff.

The commission raised concerns over traffic calming devices. The consultant provided multi-way stops at each intersection. The commission recommended speed tables and lane narrowing if possible. Lastly, the Consultant pointed out that the intent is to restrict truck traffic after Jordan Street.

Public Comment:

Residents came out in support of this project and encouraged the city commission to help move this project

forward, Mike Dravenstott encouraged to move the project along as quickly as possible. He stated this will be a 14 mile loop from....there are a lot of pieces coming together.

Jim Spang says they back the D&L trail. The Riverfront Civic Association backs anything D&L puts forward. Ed Murfin was also in attendance and had no additional comments.

The applicant will contact city staff to grant a waiver of the MPC Time limitations. No action was taken on the plan.

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm

**!! APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO
ATTEND !!
ANY QUESTIONS? CALL
610-437-7611**