

PA Route 54 Section 090
Community Advisory Committee
Summary for Meeting #1
Held February 20, 2018 at Mahoning Township
849 Bloom Road Danville, PA
5:00-7:00 PM

What follows is a brief summary of the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting #1. The meeting was attended by 15 members of the community representing local municipalities, emergency services, and the local business community. A list of the members is available on the project website. In addition to the CAC members, 12 PennDOT representatives and their Consultants were present. The CAC meeting was run by Chris Bauer, P.E., PTOE of McMahon Associates, Inc. Informational packets were handed out including:

- CAC Ground Rules
 - Speed Limit Info
 - LTAP – Speed Limit Procedure
 - Website Access Instructions
 - Previously Developed Alternatives
 - Blank Project Map
- Chris Bauer began the meeting by noting that while he will be presenting a lot of information at the first CAC meeting, the subsequent meetings will be more workshop based where all members will participate. Chris then introduced himself and asked all those in attendance to introduce themselves and mention the group they are there to represent.
 - After Introductions Chris reviewed the ground rules the CAC should follow, noting the following:
 1. What is a CAC and how will it operate: An advisory group that will openly express opinions, and exchange information about the project.
 2. Future meetings: 3 additional meetings will take place at approximately 1 month intervals.
 3. Reaching Consensus: reached when there is a majority that can accept a proposal. Dissenting views will be noted.
 - Chris noted that additional community outreach efforts will take place including a project website, a project newsletter at the end of the CAC meetings, and press releases after each CAC meeting.
 - Eric Weber, P.E., the PennDOT Project Manager, shared a brief history of the project area and earlier efforts by PennDOT along this corridor.
 - Chris then shared some background information about how PennDOT plans for the future using Design Years, how a roadway's design affects the speed people travel, how speed limits are set in PA, and information on studies done on the affects of changing the posted speed limit.

- Chris reviewed the common remarks received at the November 2017 public meeting.
 - The public feels forgotten or ignored
 - Why can't the traveling speed be reduced throughout the Route 54 corridor?
 - Have the effects of commuter traffic from the Geisinger facilities been considered?
 - Inadequate highway lighting resulting in poor nighttime visibility
 - Install traffic signals at Jerseytown Road and Liberty Valley Road
 - Install roundabouts at the Jerseytown Road and Liberty Valley Road
 - Will this project lead to increased traffic on local roadways?
 - Several residents noted their support to the realignment option.

- All members of the CAC then shared what they felt were the Community Goals for the project. What follows is the complete list of goals shared by the members:
 - Improve Safety and Reduce Accidents (this was the overwhelming priority)
 - Don't push traffic from 54 onto the local road system
 - Create an easier to travel corridor specifically for folks new to the area
 - Create expeditious and effective travel patterns
 - Reduce congestion, especially at peak hours
 - Funnel traffic legally onto and off of 642
 - Consider short term solutions – items that can be done quickly
 - Maintain the small town feel of the area, do not make it easy for development
 - Funnel traffic in an orderly manor into Danville
 - Develop an effective long term solution in a reasonable time frame
 - Reduce the use of 54, specifically by trucks using the corridor as a "shortcut"