

Glenmont Exchange, Inc.
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Minutes of the March 27, 2017 meeting

Attendees: Josh Goodman, Charlotte Crutchfield, Bill Siefken, Ken Greenberg, D. Darling, C. Juarer, John Teigeiro, Clarence Lacy, Karen Lacy, Sam Friedman, Ed Seeley, Laura McAtee, Dorinda Danneman, Stu Carlow, Linda Goldreyer, Michael Gelman, John D Bowen, Ian Rothman, Eric Lienhart, Betty Sharper, W. Payne, Jr., Andrew Zaleski, Pierro Marinucci, Bernadette Salyer, J. &L. Healey, Mel Brenne, Corinne Goldsmith, Arquilla Ridgell, Nelson, B. Borgre, B. Moore, and Robert Caro.

Ed Seely, State Highway Administration Area Engineer, spoke about the interchange construction at Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road. SHA currently has 15 projects under construction. Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road is the busiest intersection in the whole state.

Construction started 3 years ago, with utility relocation. The project cost was expected to be \$34M, with minor change orders it may come in less than \$36M. The bridge construction is complete; they are starting the 3rd phase of tunnel work, east of the bridge on Randolph Road.

Phase IV will start with the traffic shift on Saturday, April 1. During the traffic shift, only right turns will be allowed at the intersection. VMS signs will be up for the Saturday detours, 6 state troopers will be on site to control traffic and all white lines will be refreshed. They will continue to use bollards to help delineate the roadways.

Phases VI and VII will involve shifting Randolph Road to lower the grade of Randolph Road up to Glenmont Circle. Phasing will add tunnel lanes one at a time to allow construction of lanes. They think they will reach final configuration, with the tunnel open, by the end of the year. Final items – landscaping, the police parking lot, etc., will be finished next year. Final configuration will include pedestrian islands with push buttons on the islands.

The old gas station area was originally wanted by the Park Supervisor as green space; it will be a small area of green space. The leftover space at the Glenmont School area, currently used as a construction staging area, is projected to be green space. At the completion of construction, SHA will leave it as grass.

Randolph Road will have two lanes each way through the tunnel, with a median. All turns will be made using the access roads. Traffic on Georgia Avenue should be freer flowing.

The fire station will remain in its new location, and the police station will remain in its old location. Access to Judson Road will be from local lanes only.

SHA has purchased a slice of the Glenmont Shopping Center property along Georgia Avenue for the construction of a stormwater retention pond. Ed thinks that all the entrances off Georgia Avenue will remain open. There will be enormous storm drains under Sheraton and Judson.

The intersection of Georgia Avenue and Layhill Road will retain its configuration, with the right turn lane onto Layhill before the signal, and it will get new signals and upgraded pedestrian facilities. The Yield sign on Georgia Avenue at Layhill Road is missing. Ed will check into it. The puddles currently at the intersection are unlikely to remain after construction is completed.

Pedestrian controls, such as a fence on the median, were requested for Layhill Road between Georgia Avenue and Glenallan Avenue, to reduce the number of pedestrians running across Layhill between the intersections.

The poor pavement conditions on Georgia Avenue, south of Randolph Road will eventually be repaired by area-wide resurfacing.

Concern was expressed about increased speed on Randolph Road, eastbound, with the elimination of the Georgia Avenue signal. Request was made for left turn signals at Randolph Road and Glenallan Avenue. The request should be made to Montgomery County.

Concern was expressed about the safety of pedestrians crossing Randolph Road at Livingston. After the stoplight at Georgia Avenue is removed, traffic will be more free-flowing and opportunities for crossing may be reduced. This intersection is not in the construction zone and issues should be referred to Montgomery County.

The Minutes were approved. The Treasurer's Report was approved. Dues have been received from some new members. Proposal #1, to amend the bylaws to remove term limits, was approved. Proposal #2, to amend the bylaws to reduce the required number of voting members from 8 to 5, was approved.

Reminder that elections will be held in June, with nominations in May.

At a recent Poplar Run meeting, Ride-On Bus gave a presentation about the relocated bus route. It will run from the Glenmont Metro station, up Layhill Road and through Poplar Run and Tivoli, before heading down Kemp Mill Road towards the Wheaton Metro station. It is hoped this will open up transportation options to younger members of the community, in addition to providing a commuter shuttle the metro stations.

A presentation from the local Community Police Office was suggested for the April Meeting.

A request was received for a donation for the Kennedy High School Post Prom event.

The next Glenmont Exchange meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, 2017
Minutes submitted by Dorinda Danneman, Secretary.