

**Minutes
Township of Falls
Neighborhood Traffic Advisory Committee**

May 12, 2025

Members in Attendance:

Robert Leary
Ariane Presser

Members Absent:

Ian James

Also in Attendance:

Josh Seeherman, Remington Vernick (traffic engineer)
Sgt. Ray Fanelli, Falls Township Police Department
Nicole Rodowicz, TMA Bucks
Mr. Kevin Golden, Bristol Pike Resident

Sgt. Fanelli opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

The minutes from the April 14, 2025 meeting were approved with no changes.

Ms. Rodowicz, from TMA Bucks, spoke about a grant project she is working on. Her project is slightly on hold due to the Septa crisis. When the grant was awarded by the DVRPC, there was a big push by SEPTA with the bus revolution which is now deleted from their website. She is still trying to use the funds to help townships along the Route 1 corridor. The bus revolution idea was the smaller buses (the big buses are empty) and more on demand pick ups. Benches and shelters are also important for waiting since the buses may only run once per hour. The original grant was to evaluate the bus stops to make them safer for the most vulnerable population. She is trying to set up a walkability audit for the Fall. It will be a ½ mile stretch along the Route 1 corridor. We take a walk, see the bus stops, see the safest places to cross, etc. The results would then be sent back to the Township. The Township would then consider making improvements if the funds were available. The improvements could be something as simple as connecting sidewalks. She would recommend a police officer go along on this walk for safety reasons. Sgt. Fanelli said the police department definitely wants to participate in this. She doesn't need an answer tonight, and there is no date set yet, but she just wanted to bring it to our attention. Mr. Seeherman asked what the timeline for this is. Ms. Rodowicz said she needs someone from AARP, the CLEAN AIR COUNCIL, DVRPC, police, and someone from the community. Mr. Seeherman may also attend the walk. She would then do a DOODLE poll for a date. You don't want to walk with more than eight people. She is looking at September because there is still enough sunlight in the afternoon. After that it gets dark early. She would like to have something on the books by August.

The TMA (Transportation Management Association) is a non-profit organization that gives awareness to the community and gives people a voice. They show why it's important for people to be able to get

around in safe ways that don't involve a single occupancy vehicle. They also do community safety traffic programs such as car seat safety checks that are free to townships. They do 'Click it or Ticket' or 'Don't Text and Drive' campaigns. They do anything with transportation that promotes safety. Ms. Rodowicz thanked the committee.

Sgt. Fanelli then told Mr. Golden that the CAC Tire & Auto (41 Cedar Lane, between Tyburn and Penn Valley Rd.) property where all the cars are getting stacked up on is actually owned by Corco Chemical. He's a new owner for less than one year. Sgt. Fanelli spoke with him and he was very receptive and said he will look into having the vehicles moved back further or moved away completely.

Ms. Begley was not in attendance but Sgt. Fanelli reported that she wanted to discuss speeding on the 9100 block of Mill Creek Road, between the Mill Creek Inn and the Community Park. The Police did a speed study there. It's a 25mph zone and the 85% was 39 mph. Both of our speed trailers are down. One needs a motherboard and a radar head but no one here knows how to install them. The other trailer is down for good. So the best we can do there is some enforcement.

Mr. Arnao, Public Works Foreman, spoke about speed humps (not speed bumps). One of the companies in the steel mill wanted to cross their employees safely so they put out a speed hump and signage. These were temporary ones. Mr. Arnao said he liked the height of them (under 2") and that they are reflective. But in a neighborhood, the trash trucks destroy them. They are in the process of taking them up in the Twin Oaks section. They may be putting permanent ones out there. Sgt. Fanelli would like to purchase a set of these as a test on a township road. If we see a reduction in speed, Mr. Arnao could put permanent ones down that are covered in asphalt. They won't move around or become wobbly. Mr. Arnao said a 10' long section and about 2" high is about \$600 and they are rubberized, not plastic. We would need two or three of them, depending on how wide the road is. You need to have a couple of feet for a shoulder for drainage of stormwater. These would be temporary to see if driver's actions are corrected. If it works, we could put permanent ones down. Thornridge will need three 10' pieces because it is 34' wide. The biggest complaint from residents will be "why did you put it near my driveway?" Sgt. Fanelli would like to purchase 2 sets of 3 pieces. We would have to draft a request to the Board of Supervisors to ask them for consideration. Mr. Seeherman said we need paint leading up to these. It would be painted "SPEED HUMP".

Item #5 was then discussed – improvements to Austin Drive and Thornridge Drive. Sgt. Fanelli was asked to summarize the meeting he had and what action they are looking to take. One of the items is to stripe the road so it appears narrower. However, the 800 block of Austin Drive is where the problem is and it is too narrow to mark the lanes, because that would eliminate parking.

The speed sign he purchased was \$5,600 plus \$250 for a YOUR SPEED sign on top. It can be moved around. You can control it from your home. It will flash red for speeding or no lights at all. It can just collect data also. It is tamper proof and solar powered. It is called Shield 12. Sgt. Fanelli would like to have 5 of these machines.

Since both of our speed trailers are dead, Sgt. Fanelli would like to have a variable message board, but that is \$20,000. The road crew can use it also when they are working on a road. Mr. Seeherman said there might be a grant available starting in September for this.

Mr. Arnao said to paint about a mile on Austin Drive and Thornridge by Turnabout, should cost about \$4,000 for double yellow striping and shoulder lines. This is about 15 – 20 cents/foot. We received another complaint today about the Thornridge/Turnabout area. We would also like to support this with plowable reflective markings. Sgt. Fanelli wants to split up that mile. On Austin Drive he wants a mid-block painting and on Thornridge, he wants it to start at the entrance. We will then look over the results. We have to keep this to 34'+ wide streets, that is the minimum.

Sgt. Fanelli asked the committee to draft two letters to the BOS. One for the speed humps and one for the \$4,000 Austin/Thornridge striping.

Sgt. Fanelli said the Chief is hoping to partner with Waste Management to secure a program where we have real time data and he may open the data up to the public. It is a very expensive program that takes data from your vehicle's infotainment center.

Item #9 was regarding the removal of the wavy chicanes in a Montgomery County township. It didn't go over very well.

Mr. Seeherman made some suggestions on the recommendation letter to the BOS. Ms. Presser will update the letter and send it to Ms. Levson to be presented to the Board at their June working meeting which is the second Tuesday of each month.

Ms. Presser asked about painting STOP bars and the vertical stop sign strips for smaller neighborhood sections such as Stanwood and Chesterton, Hanford and Stanwood, Glenmar and Stanwood, etc.

There was no other business, so the meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.