



AGENDA

WORKSHOP MEETING – BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2023, 7:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING ID: [896 8045 8781](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680458781)
[MEETING PASSCODE: TOWNSHIP](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680458781)

LINK TO LIVE BROADCAST: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680458781>

PUBLIC COMMENT: Residents who plan to attend the meeting in person are encouraged to comment on agenda items or bring new business to the attention of the Board of Commissioners at the beginning of the meeting.

Residents who will be attending remotely are encouraged to submit their comments or questions to the Township Manager prior to the close of the business day on the date of the meeting using the link below:

[SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT](#)

1. **Traffic Study – Northwestern Avenue** – review the results of a traffic study for a portion of roadway located between Ridge Pike and the Wissahickon Valley Park
2. **Parking Study – Gravers Lane** – authorize the police department to conduct a parking study within the 600 block of Gravers Lane
3. **No Stigma/No Shame Day** – receive a presentation from the Springfield Township Opioid Action Committee
4. **Land Development – 910 Willow Grove Avenue** – mixed use medical office with residential – decision
5. **Planning Commission Membership** – consider the reappointment of two existing members
6. **Recycling Report** – review monthly recycling activities
7. **Resolution – Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership** – a resolution renewing the Intergovernmental Agreement to participate in the Partnership
8. **Resolution – Bird Town PA** – a resolution authorizing participation in the Bird Town Pennsylvania Program

9. **Stormwater Management Education Workshop** – announce the Township will be conducting a stormwater management education workshop on February 25, 2023, 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
10. **Bid - Burton Road Flood Mitigation Project** – review bid results and consider awarding a contract
11. **Sale of Used Equipment** – authorize the sale of a 2008 Chevrolet pick-up truck and an Ingersoll Rand air compressor via the Municibid on-line auction site
12. **Resolution - Montco 2040 Implementation Grant** – authorize two grant applications to be submitted for open space acquisition and stormwater easements
13. **Township Manager’s Report** – discuss operational issues as outlined in the Monthly Report
14. **February Bill Listing** – review and approve the monthly bill listing and check reconciliation of the previous month
15. **Zoning Hearing Board Agenda** – announce the agenda of any special or regular meeting of the Zoning Hearing Board
16. **Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee** – consider the following recommendations:
 - a. Installation of a Goose “Beacon” at Hillcrest Pond to discourage geese from nesting at the pond
 - b. Addition of a student representative on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee and the ad hoc Rec Center Advisory Committee
 - c. Transition of the travel basketball and travel softball programs to independent “club” based programs

NEW BUSINESS

Michael Taylor
Secretary/Manager

AMT:cmt
1/31/23

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE!

ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WISHING TO ATTEND THE ABOVE SCHEDULED MEETING AND REQUIRING AN AUXILIARY AID, SERVICE OR OTHER ACCOMMODATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCEEDINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE

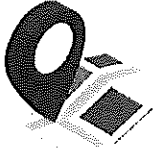
OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER AT 215-836-7600, 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

To access the live broadcast of the meeting via zoom, residents can watch:

- VIA WEB BROWSER: Copy and paste this link into your web browser: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89680458781>; type in the passcode: TOWNSHIP, when prompted.
- VIA ZOOM APP: if you have the Zoom App on your smartphone, tablet, or computer, open the program, click join a meeting, and enter the Meeting ID: 896 8045 8781; type in the passcode: TOWNSHIP, when prompted.
- VIA CALL-IN: Dial +1 646 558 8656 and enter the Meeting ID: 896 8045 8781; type in the passcode: TOWNSHIP, when prompted.

SPEED DATA ANALYSIS

Location



900 Northwestern Ave
Latitude: 40.075955
Longitude: -75.240843

Analysis Time Period



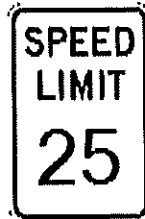
Start	End
1/25/2023 12:08 PM	1/31/2023 12:01 PM

Vehicles Analyzed



2,005

Speed Limit



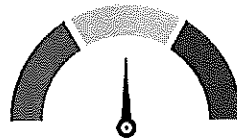
25

Total Enforceable Violations



32

Average Speed



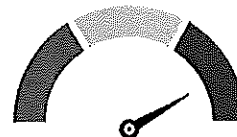
19

% Enforceable Violations



2%

Fastest Speed

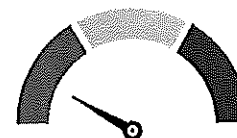


48

Enforcement Rating

LOW

Slowest Speed



6

Speed Enforcement Evaluator

Location

900 Northwestern Ave

Analysis Dates

Start: 1/25/2023

End: 1/31/2023

Equipment Used

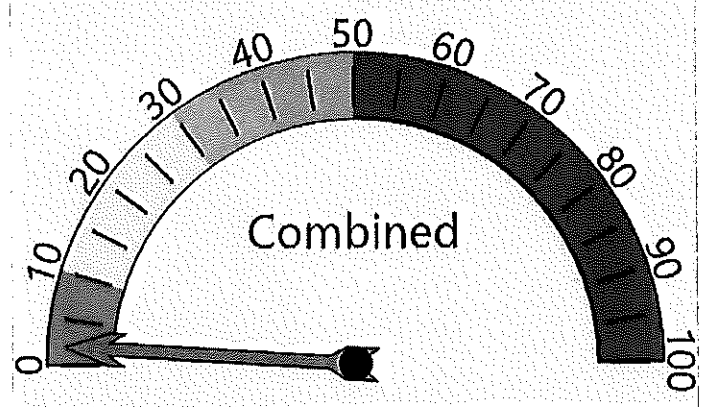
Jamar Radar

Installed By

Sgt. Shawn Hart

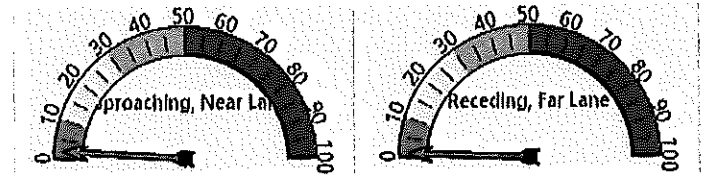
Total Percentage of Enforceable Violations

Posted Speed Limit 25 MPH
Enforcement Tolerance 10 MPH
Enforcement Limit Greater than 35 MPH



Percent Speeding: 2%

Rating: Low



Percent Speeding: 2%

Rating: Low

Percent Speeding: 1%

Rating: Low

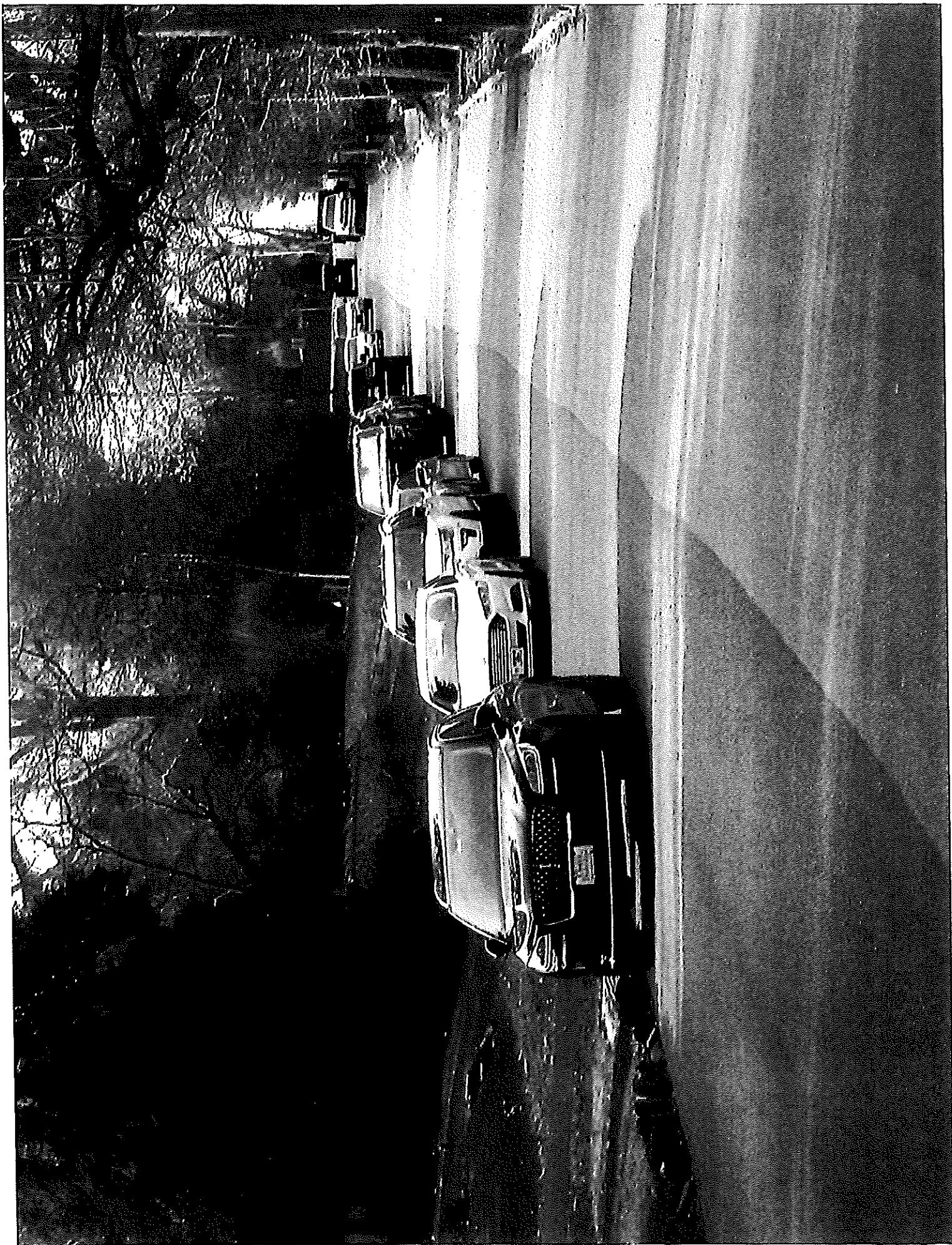


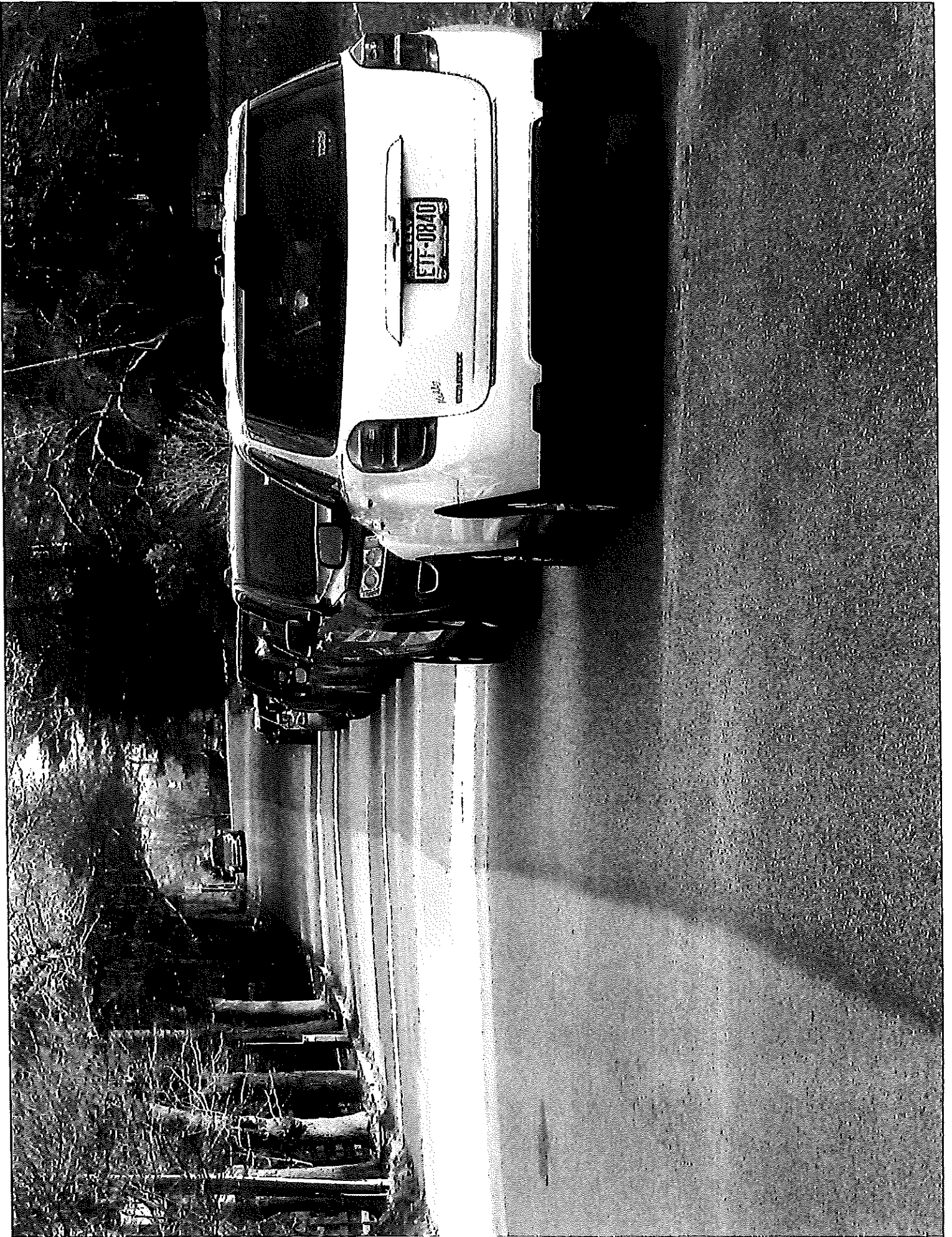
Image capture: Aug 2014 © 2023 Google

277 W Northwe
Ave, Philadelph

Founding
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view
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22-h-01





SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DATE: 09.27.22



NEW APARTMENT BUILDING
3D RENDERING FRONT VIEW

WILLOW GROVE AVE

910 WILLOW GROVE AVE | GLENSIDE PA 19038



SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DATE: 08.27.22



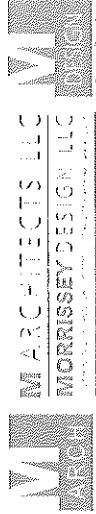
NEW APARTMENT BUILDING
3D RENDERING REAR VIEW

WILLOW GROVE AVE

910 WILLOW GROVE AVE | GLENSIDE PA 19038

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

DATE: 09.27.22



NEW APARTMENT BUILDING
3D RENDERING FRONT FACADE

910 WILLOW GROVE AVE | GLENSIDE PA 19038

WILLOW GROVE AVE

**RECYCLING REPORT
STATISTICAL DATA
FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023**

	<u>THIS MONTH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	<u>2022 BUDGET</u>
Materials Collected (tons)			
Single Stream Recyclables	173.4	173.4	2,172
Householder Participation			
No. of Curb Stops	19,482	19,482	278,534
Percent of Total (7,200)	67.6	67.6	74.0
Avg. Lbs. per Curb Stop	17.8	17.8	15.6
Sales Value of Recyclables (net)			
Single Stream Recyclables (\$70.71)*	(12,261.11)	(12,261.11)	(77,594.84)
Disposal Savings/Cost Avoidance			
COVANTA Tipping Fee @ \$75.24	13,046.17	13,046.17	163,398.71
State Performance Grant			
Prorated Annual Award	1,905.17	1,905.17	22,862.00
Grand Total Sales/Savings	2,690.23	2,690.23	108,665.87
Cost of Collection (prorated)			
Labor and Overhead	(26,011.42)	(26,011.42)	(312,137.00)
Equipment Cost	(4,216.67)	(4,216.67)	(50,600.00)
General Expense/Recycling Center	(83.33)	(83.33)	(1,000.00)
Total Cost	(30,311.42)	(30,311.42)	(363,737.00)
Net Income and Saving	(27,621.19)	(27,621.19)	(255,071.13)

* Estimated; Sales value adjusts monthly

RESOLUTION NO. 1594

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

A Resolution to Authorize an Extension of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Other Montgomery and Philadelphia County Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators to Complete a Water Quality Improvement Plan as an Alternative to the EPA Phosphorus Total Maximum Daily Load for the Wissahickon Creek Watershed.

Municipalities:

Abington Township	Ambler Borough
Cheltenham Township	Lansdale Borough
Lower Gwynedd Township	Montgomery Township
North Wales Borough	Philadelphia County
Springfield Township	Upper Dublin Township
Upper Gwynedd Township	Whitpain Township
Whitemarsh Township	

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators:

Abington Township Wastewater Treatment Plant
Ambler Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant
Upper Gwynedd Township Wastewater Treatment Plant
Upper Dublin Township Wastewater Treatment Plant

WHEREAS, Counties, Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators, when not inconsistent with state or federal law, are authorized to oversee and regulate trade, commerce, and the use of public streets, ways and property within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act (Act of July 12, 1972, P.L. 762, as amended, 53 P.S. §481, et seq.), permits Municipalities, Counties and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators to enter into agreements to cooperate in the performance of their respective functions, powers or responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Counties and Municipalities, as well as the provisions of Pennsylvania's Intergovernmental Cooperation Law, provide for intergovernmental cooperation between and among municipalities in the exercise or performance of their respective governmental functions, powers and responsibilities and authorize joint agreements as may be deemed appropriate for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Wissahickon Creek has been designated as impaired under Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act, and has been assigned a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) per (40 CFR 130.2 and 130.70) and individual wasteload allocations (WLAs) for point sources and load allocations (LAs) for nonpoint sources have been assigned; and

WHEREAS, The municipalities located in the Wissahickon Creek watershed are obligated under the PADEP's MS4/NPDES program to develop and implement a stormwater management plan, including a TMDL plan, which contains a strategy to meet the municipality's MS4 and TMDL obligations, and it is recognized that the municipal plans will have greater effectiveness if they are coordinated with and incorporated into the TMDL Alternative plan; and

WHEREAS, The EPA's New Long-Term Vision for the 303(d) Program allows for alternative approaches to the TMDL that incorporates adaptive management and are tailored to specific circumstances. Counties, Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Operators have determined that developing a TMDL Alternative Plan in order to satisfy the intent of the EPA established and proposed TMDL pollutant reductions is a justified and necessary action; and

WHEREAS, the Participating Municipalities in Montgomery and Philadelphia County and Wastewater Treatment Operators recognize that watersheds cross municipal boundaries and coordinated planning effort is to the benefit of all participating Municipalities and Counties and that it is in the best interest of their residents to cooperate in the development of a TMDL Alternative, through participation in this collaborative effort, and

WHEREAS, the Municipalities and Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators recognize that the coordination of services would enable each Municipality to minimize the costs of the administration and implementation of a TMDL Alternative Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

The Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township desires to continue participating in the collaborative partnership with other Wissahickon Creek permittees to advance the development of a TMDL Alternative. The Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the extension of the most recent Intergovernmental Agreement (see attached), through December 31, 2023 or ninety (90) days after final approval of the Wissahickon Water Quality Improvement Plan.

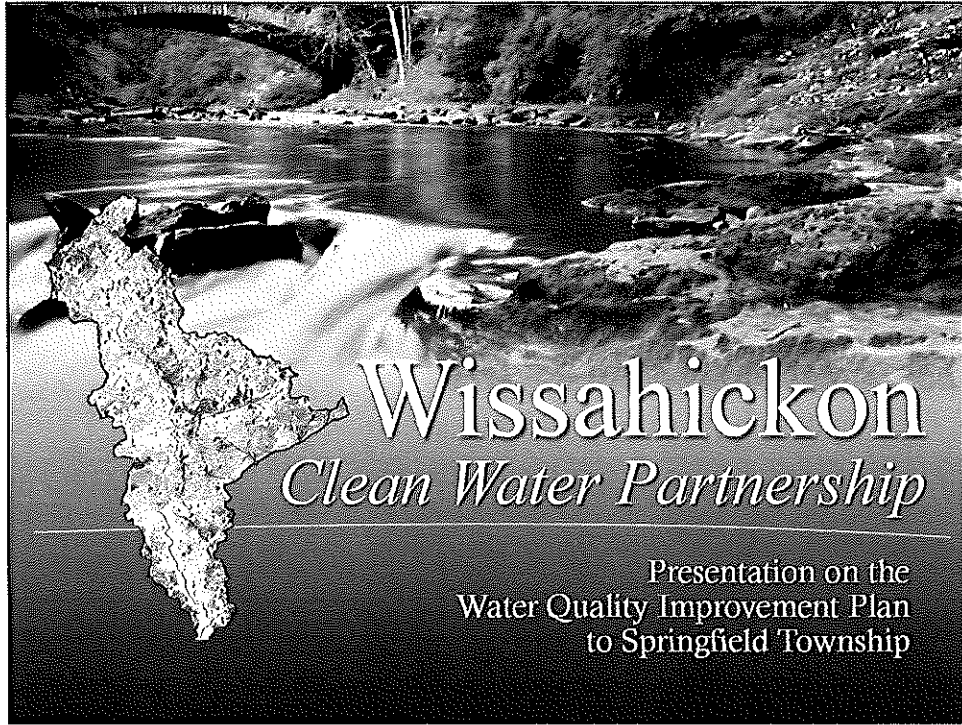
UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED this 8th day of February, 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

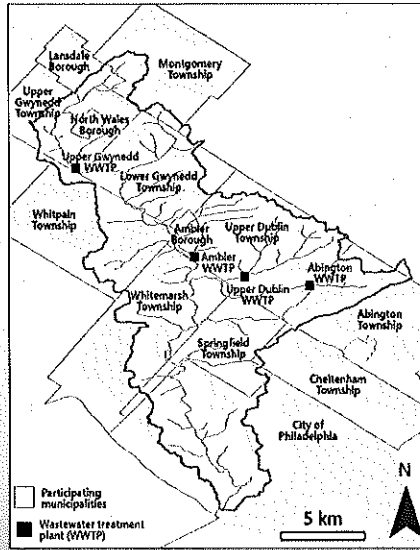
By: _____
James M. Lee, President

ATTEST:

A. Michael Taylor, Secretary



ABOUT THE PARTNERSHIP



Wissahickon *Clean Water Partnership*

A voluntary collaboration of over a dozen municipalities and four wastewater facilities:

- Abington Township
- Ambler Borough
- Cheltenham Township
- Lansdale Borough
- Lower Gwynedd Township
- Montgomery Township
- North Wales Borough
- Springfield Township
- Upper Dublin Township
- Upper Gwynedd Township
- Whittemarsh Township
- Whitpain Township
- City of Philadelphia

TMDL vs. WQIP

TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load
 WQIP – Water Quality Improvement Plan

Wissahickon
Clean Water Partnership

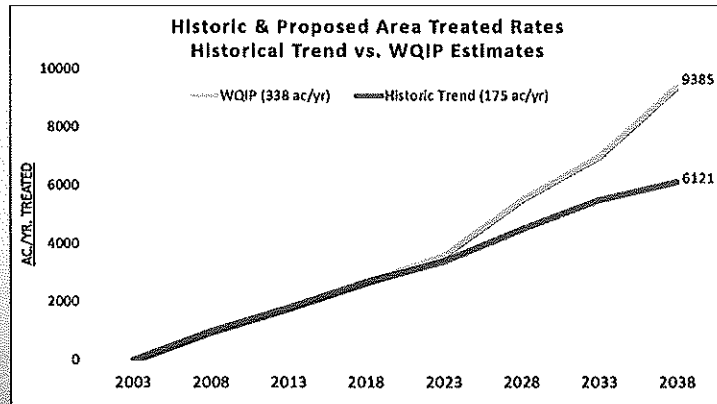


- A **TMDL** is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and continue to meet water quality standards.
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes TMDLs, including the Phosphorous TMDL in 2015.
- Wissahickon Creek is classified as impaired due to high **PHOSPHORUS** levels.
- Our draft **WQIP is an alternative** to the 2015 TMDL and this is more holistic and seeks to address more than just phosphorus.

4

WQIP as a BETTER ALTERNATIVE

Wissahickon
Clean Water Partnership



HEALTHIER WATERSHED
 by addressing more than phosphorus (i.e. hydrology & imperviousness)

EASIER COMPLIANCE
 TMDL is REQUIRED. WQIP allows us to comply at less cost with a bigger impact.

REDUCED COSTS
 WQIP recommends more cost effective, multi-municipal solutions

5

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Wissahickon *Clean Water Partnership*

ARPA AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

FUNDED AMOUNT:
\$1,500,000

ORGANIZATION:
Wissahickon Clean Water Partnership

ISSUE AREA:
Public Utilities Infrastructure

TARGET POPULATION:
General Public

SERVICE AREA:
Northampton, Oakton, and Fairfax Counties

WISSAHICKON WATERSHED WATER QUALITY FUNDING PROGRAM

In accordance with the American Rescue Plan Act, the Partnership is pleased to announce the funding of the Wissahickon Watershed Water Quality Funding Program. This program will provide funding to support the implementation of water quality projects in the watershed. The program will provide funding to support the implementation of water quality projects in the watershed. The program will provide funding to support the implementation of water quality projects in the watershed.

PROJECT IMPACT:
This is a long-term project and will improve the water quality of the watershed. The project will provide funding to support the implementation of water quality projects in the watershed. The project will provide funding to support the implementation of water quality projects in the watershed.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN:

- Implementation of the program phase for water quality projects.
- Review of the program phase for water quality projects.
- Review of the program phase for water quality projects.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT SIGNED

DATA COLLECTED & SCI. MODEL DEVELOPED
Collaborated with technical consultants and Temple University to collect data and project WQIP impact

WATER QUALITY PROJECTS IDENTIFIED

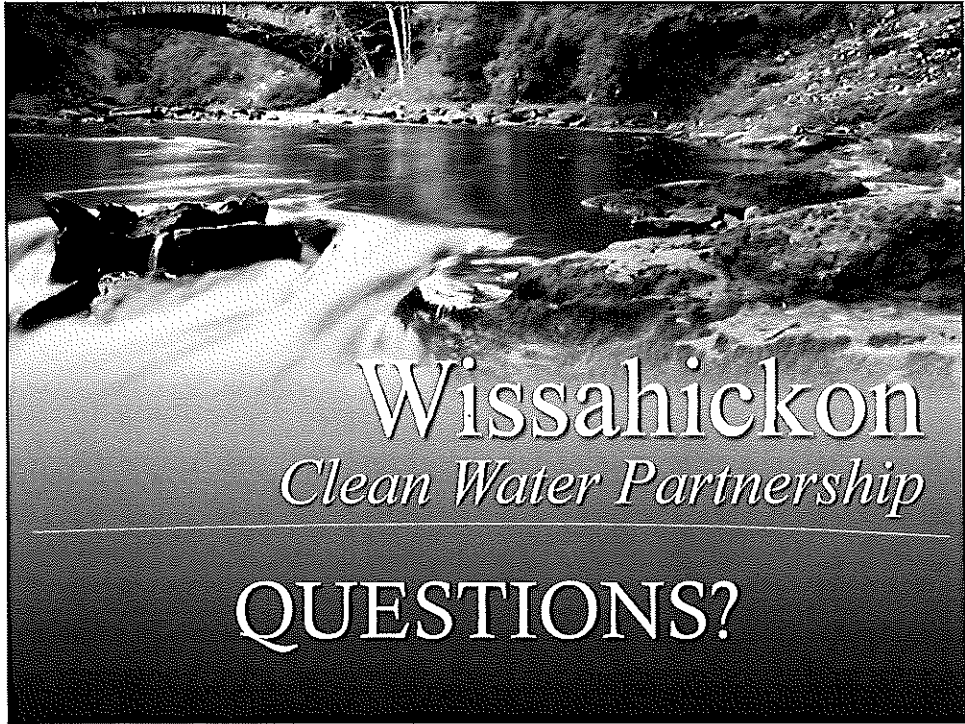
Multiple methods of analysis including modeling of the watershed have been used to identify priority projects

NEGOTIATED WITH REGULATORS ON WQIP

Met with state and federal regulators to revise draft WQIP and resubmit for approval.

FUNDING SECURED FOR FIRST PROJECTS

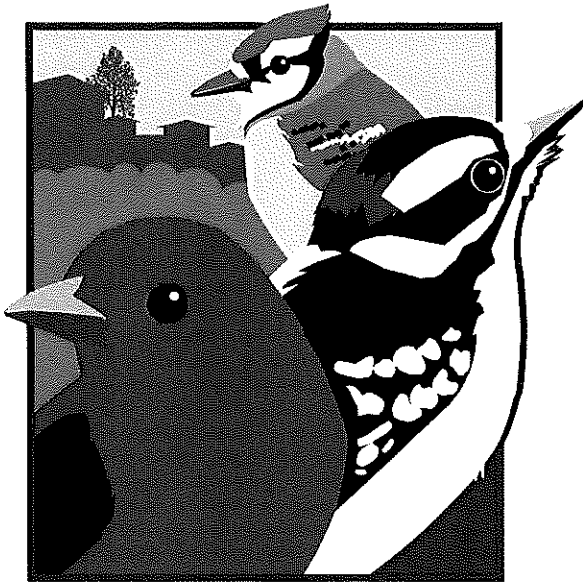
The Partnership received \$1.5 million to initiate the first set of projects to satisfy the WQIP.



Wissahickon
Clean Water Partnership

QUESTIONS?

 Audubon



BIRD TOWN
PENNSYLVANIA

OLD Bird Town PA
Street Signs

BIRD TOWN
PENNSYLVANIA



NEW Bird Town PA
Street Signs

birdtownpa.org

Let's Talk Stormwater!



Stormwater Management Coffee Talk

A FREE Public
Education Workshop

Have an important stormwater
management question and
unsure of where to begin?

Join us at our free public
workshop to discuss stormwater
management in Springfield Twp!

Preregistration is required.

Light Refreshments will also be
provided to workshop attendees.

**OFFERED BY
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

Date & Time

Saturday, 25 Feb, 2023
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
In-Person Meeting

Location

Township Bldg.
1510 Paper Mill Road
Wyndmoor, PA 19038

Hear from Springfield Township's Engineer
and Staff about stormwater in our community

- Learn the stormwater management basics such as watershed information, floodplains, stormwater infrastructure;
- Hear about the history of stormwater management and the Township's MS4 obligations;
- Discuss stormwater management design, including collection, conveyance and treatment;
- Explore steps that property owners can take now to address flooding and help prevent it from happening.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Register TODAY by visiting
www.springfieldmontco.org/education

QUESTIONS? Contact us at 215.836.7600 or stop by the Township Bldg.

RESOLUTION NO.

**TOWNSHIP OF SPRINGFIELD
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**A Resolution Authorizing Application to the 2023 Round of the
Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program for the Acquisition of 2.759 Acres of
Open Space at 380-402 Haws Lane and a Stormwater Easement on Integrity Avenue**

WHEREAS, Montgomery County has established the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program as a competitive funding program to assist municipalities in implementing the goals of the county comprehensive plan, Montco 2040: A Shared Vision; and

WHEREAS, the County is accepting applications for projects that advance specific goals under either of the county comprehensive plan's three themes: Connecting Communities, Sustainable Places, and a Vibrant Economy; and

WHEREAS, applications and projects must meet all stated requirements within the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program Guidebook; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Springfield wishes to obtain funding from the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant program to provide funding to acquire 2.759 acres of open space at 380-402 Haws Lane in Erdenheim to preserve woodlands and transition the site into a future public park for the benefit of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Springfield wishes to submit a second funding request to the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant program for the acquisition of a stormwater easement along four properties on Integrity Avenue in Oreland for the future construction of a stormwater retention basin to mitigate flooding in the adjoining residential neighborhoods.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the Board of Commissioners of Springfield Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, hereby approves these projects and authorizes the submission of both application requesting funding from the 2023 round of the Montco 2040 Implementation Grant Program.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED this 8th day of February, 2023.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP

By: _____
James M. Lee, President

Attest: _____
A. Michael Taylor, Secretary

Springfield Township Zoning Hearing Board Notice

Notice is hereby given that the Zoning Hearing Board of Springfield Township, Montgomery County, will hold a meeting as required by the Zoning Ordinance of Springfield Township. This meeting will be held in the Boardroom of the Springfield Township Administration Building, located at 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038.

On Monday, February 27, 2023 and will start at 7:00 P.M.

Case #23-01: This is the application of Ms. Mary O. Whitman, owner of property located at 401 Station Avenue, Glenside, PA 19038 known as Parcel #5200-1650-1007. The applicant seeks a variance from Section 114-135.A of the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance. The applicant has requested approval for the installation of a six foot high aluminum spaced picket fence along a portion of the front property line adjoining S. fairway Road. Six foot high fencing is required to maintain a 15 foot setback from the front property line. The property is zoned within the A-Residential District of Ward #7 of Springfield Township.

Case #23-02: This is the application of Ms. Megan Fitzpatrick, owner of property located at 800 Wyndmoor Avenue, Wyndmoor, PA 19038, known as Parcel #5200-1921-8008. The applicant seeks a variance from Section 114-82.A of the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance. The applicant has requested approval to demolish the existing garage on the property and construct a new single family dwelling. The variance is required due to the fact that the lot is 4,125 square foot in total lot area and is required to be a minimum of 4,500 square feet. The property is zoned within the D-Residential District of Ward #5 of Springfield Township.

Case #23-03: This is the application of Mr. Keith Gamber, owner of property located at 1209 Wedgewood Road, Flourtown, PA 19031, known as Parcel #5200-1786-3004. The applicant seeks a variance from Section 114-132. A & B of the Springfield Township Zoning Ordinance. The applicant has requested approval to construct an accessory building that is 15 feet, 3 inches in height instead of the 12 foot height limitation of the Zoning Ordinance. The property is zoned within the A-Residential District of Ward #1 of Springfield Township.

Copies of the application packets are available for review in the Community Development Office during normal business hours, located at 1510 Paper Mill Road, Wyndmoor, PA 19038 or on our website at springfieldmontco.org. Any question you may have can be addressed by contacting Mr. Penecale at 215-836-7600, ext. 1114.

By Order of the Springfield Township
Zoning Hearing Board
Mark A. Penecale
Director of Planning & Zoning

**SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

1. Call to Order (E. Baiada)

Kerry Boccella	Chair
Adrienne Smythe	Vice Chair
Nick Matteo	Friends of Hillcrest Pond Representative
Lee Abberley	Member
Robert McGrath	Member
Neil DiFranco	School District School Board Representative
Joe Ferraro	School District Representative
Susanna Ratsavong	Commissioner Liaison, Ward 2

Guests:	Emilie Lapham	Resident
	Kathy Hodgkiss	Resident
	Beth Zenuk	Resident

2. Approval of Minutes from December (All)

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee unanimously approved the December minutes.

3. Administrative Report (E. Baiada)

As the President of District III, Mrs. Baiada co-hosted the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society Winter Workshop with Temple University's School of Tourism and Hospitality. The training covered two topics; *How to Run an Effective Internship Program* and *Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Best Practices*.

4. Recreation Report (E. Baiada)

Throughout the month of December, programs included Martial Arts, Yoga, Jump Start Soccer Clinic, Magarity Tennis, Recreation Basketball League, Travel Basketball League, Ceramic Tree Workshop, and Jump Start Basketball Clinic. Across all programs during the month of December, 730 individuals participated in recreational programming with 30 individuals on the waitlist.

Contingent upon completed contracts, the Department anticipates the Summer Recreation Guide will be available to the public in mid-February. Summer camp registration will open on March 1 at 9:00 am via RecDesk. Kidz Klubhouse will feature a priority registration window for residents. Kidz Klubhouse Resident registration will open on March 1. Kidz Klubhouse Non-Resident registration will open April 3.

Kidz Klubhouse Summer Camp Counselor and Counselor in Training (CIT) openings will be posted on January 30, 2023. Openings are contingent upon the number of returning employees. Staff from 2022 were contacted regarding rehire on January 2 with a deadline of January 30. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and will remain open until April 4 or until filled.

5. Park Report (E. Baiada)

- **Bysher Park:** No Issues.
- **Connor James McKelvie Community Park:** No Issues.
- **Henry R. Chiaramonte Park:** No Issues.
- **James A. Cisco Park:** Reports of children playing on frozen pond. Gabion repairs continue into January, closer to Hillcrest Pond. Montco CDBG program to replace the wood bridge at Cisco.
- **James R. Fulginiti Park:** No Issues.
- **Laurel Beech Park:** No Issues.
- **Marlow Field:** No Issues.
- **Mermaid Park:** No Issues.
- **Sandy Run Park:** No Issues.
- **Veterans Park:** Water runoff issue resolution - winter project.

Park Report Continued (E. Baiada)

- **Wyndhill Park:** Wood sandbox removal in winter months.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center A:** No Issues.
- **Springfield Township Recreation Center B:** No Issues.
- **Tank Car:** Abatement schedule for Spring 2023. Potential application for DCED GTRP Program
- **Walnut Trail:** Construction in Fall 2023. Potential application for DCNR C2P2 and Montco 2040

6. Old Business (All)

2023 Sponsorship Form: All forms have been mailed to prospective sponsors. The form will be available on the Township website.

Recreation Center Advisory Committee: Members have been appointed to the RCAC. The objective of the RCAC will be to assist with the creation of a master plan for future use and possible renovations to the recreation center, and to provide technical advice and recommendations on the selection of an architect. The RCAC is comprised of 7 residents with varying expertise. The Committee will also have a Commissioner liaison and two staff liaisons. Ian Hammer will serve as liaison for the Public Works Department, while I will serve as the secretary and liaison for Parks and Recreation Department. The Commissioner liaison will be appointed during the January Board of Commissioners meeting.

7. New Business (All)

Hillcrest Pond – Do Not Feed the Waterfowl Signage: During the November 2022 meeting, the PRAC members discussed hanging signage to remind park guests to stop feeding the waterfowl. Feeding the waterfowl is in violation of the Township ordinances and can have detrimental impacts. Mrs. Baiada showed several samples of signs located in parks across the country. PRAC discussed the verbiage for signage. Dr. Abberley and Dr. McGrath noted the signs should also be hung at Mermaid Park.

Nick Matteo noted the Friends of Hillcrest Pond intend to purchase a beacon for the pond this upcoming Spring. The beacon emits a light which is invisible to the human eye. The light deters geese from landing and is intended to help with population control. PRAC members voted in favor of the Friends of Hillcrest Pond's potential purchase.

Youth Committee Member (Non-Voting): PRAC members voted in favor of adding a student member from Springfield Township (resident) to the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee as well as the new Recreation Center ADHOC Committee. The student member would not serve in a voting capacity but rather provide feedback on discussions. The PRAC noted this student should have an interest in open space, the environment, recreation, health and wellness, sports and overall community development. PRAC noted the ideal student would be outspoken, likely a Junior or Senior in High School.

Youth Sport Programs: Mrs. Baiada provided a side-by-side overview of the Travel Basketball and Recreation Basketball leagues currently running. The Township Travel Basketball league spans 7-days a week from October through March with 126 players. Facilities used are Erdenheim Elementary, Enfield Elementary and Springfield Middle School. The Township Recreation Basketball League spans 8 Saturdays with 374 participants using the gym at the Springfield Middle School. Mrs. Baiada noted that Springfield Township Parks and Recreation is the only municipal organization involved in the Travel Basketball league, all opposing teams are submitted by volunteer athletic clubs.

PRAC discussed the programs at length and noted the time provided to each child is not equal. Dr. Abberley noted that all children should have opportunity to play for equal amounts of time. Mrs. Smythe noted that soccer, baseball and softball have dedicated parent run organizations while basketball does not. The committee discussed the need for a parent group to establish a Springfield Basketball organization to take over operations. Mr. Ferraro of the School District noted that facilities would be available at no cost, as long as the organization met the permit requirements and at least 75% of participants being residents. The Township Parks and Recreation Department would assist with the transition of the program by meeting with volunteers and walking members through the steps of establishing a functional organization.

Youth Sport Programs Continued:

Mrs. Boccella made a motion for Springfield Township to transition the Travel Basketball program over to a volunteer parent run organization within the community. The Parks and Recreation Department will release a notice to the general public calling for proposals from those interested in establishing a not-for-profit Springfield Basketball Club. Proposals would not be open to for-profit-businesses. Organization would be required to have a minimum of 75% resident participants. The PRAC noted that in order for an organization to take over the league for the 2023-2024 season, proposals would need to be submitted and presented to the committee by the June 7, 2023 meeting. In the event the Township does not receive proposals and presentation by the June 7 meeting, the Township will run the Travel Basketball program for one final season, 2023-2024. After the 2023-2024 season, the Township will no longer run the program and the community will have an opportunity to establish an organization independently. The PRAC voted unanimously in favor.

Mrs. Boccella noted that the Travel Softball program should also be considered for reevaluation. During 2022, the program had 12 players in the Spring (10 resident, 2 non-resident) and 11 players in the Fall (9 resident, 2 non-resident). The Travel Softball team competes in the Inter-County Girls Softball League (ICGSL) as does the local Springfield Little League Softball charter (SLLS). The PRAC noted that the Township should not overlap with a volunteer organization within the community that is offering the same program and competes in the same league. The PRAC voted in favor of hosting the Travel Softball program for one more year (Spring and Fall 2023). In January 2024, the Travel Softball league would either be run independently by the coaching staff or merge with Springfield Little League Softball. The PRAC voted unanimously in favor.

The PRAC felt the involvement of the Township in Youth Sports is a misuse of resources that could be better spent on programs that benefit a larger portion of the population. Volunteer parents have shown to be successful in running youth sport organizations within the community for several years. The PRAC noted the Recreation Department should be focusing more on the needs of the general population and less on youth sports.

8. Public Comments (All)

Pickleball: Emilie Lapham and Kathy Hodgkiss expressed that Pickleball is growing in popularity and that there is a significant disparity in program variety within the Township for the senior population. Ms. Hodgkiss expressed that there is an abundance of programs geared toward youth sports. Ms. Hodgkiss noted that the Pickleball community would like to see additional courts, potentially at the Tank Car site, as well as indoors at the Recreation Center. Commissioner Ratsavong encouraged Ms. Hodgkiss to assemble a group and develop a proposal. She also mentioned the Recreation Center Advisory Committee will be interested in the proposal when planning begins. Commissioner Ratsavong also noted the potential use of the green space at McKelvie Park, the former location of the third basketball court.

The PRAC committee noted that Pickleball is a destination sport which drives vehicle traffic. With limited parking, adding courts may pose capacity issues. Mrs. Boccella noted that parking is not available at Wyndhill Park which was a benefit for limiting traffic flow and court use by non-residents. The courts were intended for resident use only. As use of the courts increases by both residents and non-residents, the surrounding area experienced some inadvertent consequences. Several neighbors have communicated displeasure with the noise level produced by the sport, especially while working from home. Additionally, neighbors have had driveways blocked and noted the increase in traffic. Several users have had arguments over court time with one individual hosting paid lessons, which is in violation of Township Ordinance 59-4A. To aid with court etiquette, Ms. Hodgkiss agreed to develop a set of rules for the court. The Parks and Recreation Department would create a sign to hang at the courts with these rules.

Mrs. Baiada added that the Parks and Recreation Department conducted a township-wide recreation needs assessment which produced insightful data. The survey was available via the Township website, monthly e-newsletters, social media and several yard signs posted in the parklands. One of these signs was posted next to the bench at the Wyndhill Park Tennis/Pickleball courts in an effort to capture additional

responses. During the survey, respondents were asked “What are the greatest needs for indoor and outdoor facilities to be added, expanded, or improved in Springfield over the next 5 or 10 years?” The community indicated that other recreation projects should be more immediately prioritized, most notably 64% of respondents wanted to see the addition of trails. Pickleball did not rank in the top priorities with only 17% of respondents viewing it as a priority.

9. School District Report (*N. DiFranco*)

The Property Committee will reconvene on January 10, The School Board will reconvene on January 17.

10. Commissioners’ Report (*S. Ratsavong*)

A storm water workshop will be hosted during Spring 2023 for residents to learn about water management in Springfield Township. Commissioner Ratsavong urged each member to develop a list of goals for 2023 Parks and Recreation. Members were also encouraged to visit each park and create a list of talking points and observations. Commissioner Ratsavong would like the committee to pinpoint one park each meeting and discuss needs and wants for each property. The committee would then develop a rubric to assess which parks are highest priority.

11. Call for Adjournment (*E. Baiada*)

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:30 pm