



# MEMORANDUM of MEETING

**Date:** 3/29/2017

**Date of Meeting:** 3/16/2017

**Time of Meeting:** 3:00 PM

**Meeting Location:** Mars Borough Building, Mars, PA

**Meeting Description:** Stakeholder Coordination Meeting  
(Mars Borough)

**Work Order Number:** WRA #35004

**Contract Number:** ECMS #E03625

**Project:** Route 228 Mars RR Bridge West  
Expansion Project

**CC:** Mark Rozich (PennDOT D-10); Project File

**Participants:**

Name	Company	Phone	Email
Gregg Hartung	Mars Borough, Mayor	724.777.2489	ghartung@consolidated.net
Mike Fleming	Mars Borough, Council President	724.333.4887	Mike.Fleming@FlemingTire.com
Kevin Moore	Moore Design Assoc.	724.898.2082	Kevin.Moore@mooredesignassociates.com
Brent Barrett	WRA	724.779.7940	BBarret@wrallp.com
Chad Reese	WRA	724.779.7940	CReese@wrallp.com

The meeting opened with Chad giving a brief overview of the project limits along the Route 228 Corridor, which run from Franklin Road to Pittsburgh Street. Discussions with Mars Borough were aimed at reviewing any bicycle, pedestrian, side-street, or related plans or interests that Mars might have relative to study/design influences along Route 228 or connections to the Borough.

*General Notes:*

- The Route 228 zoning overlay does not affect Mars Borough.
- The traffic study is being developed now. Current data shows maybe 2,400 cars in the peak hour. Final design projections will investigate 2025 Opening Day and 2045 Design Year volumes.
- Preliminary Design will begin soon, including reviews of typical sections, expected new developments, new access points, and additional growth potential.
- Adams Township is talking with Seven Fields and Cranberry Township on coordination of future bike and pedestrian paths. Mars Borough is located in the middle of the broader plans.
- Adams Township has a long-term vision of planning for a possible parallel route connecting Crider Road (behind the existing Springfield Grille) to Beaver Street Extension.

*Pittsburgh Street*

- Proposed development will include sidewalks on the west side of Pittsburgh Street/Warrendale Road.
- A bike lane/facility will be included on the east side of the roadway, including linkages to the south to major residential developments in Treesdale.

*Beaver Street*

- Pedestrian and bike traffic frequently use Beaver Street to travel to/from Mars. There is a large number of cyclists in Mars on the weekends, so parallel routes would be beneficial.
- There is currently sidewalk widening work in Adams Township at the Beaver Street Extension. The right-of-way narrows as it enters Mars Borough, so additional sidewalk widening may be difficult.
- The Borough has access to a portion of the right-of-way behind the CVS Pharmacy, which could potentially be explored/available for accommodating pedestrians.
- Beaver Street is also heavily used as a cut-through route for vehicular access between Route 228 and Mars, particularly when the Pittsburgh Street intersection backs up.
- There is an issue of speeding/speed control along Beaver Street that has improved some with the installation of speed-minder signing. Improving Beaver Street and/or its access to Route 228 could result in attracting even more cut-through traffic than current levels, and impact the speeding issue.
- There are sight-distance constraints looking east for Beaver Street traffic pulling onto Route 228
- There are existing waterlines on the south side of the road on the Borough line under the street.

*Development Influences in/around the Borough*

- Warrendale Road to Pittsburgh Street brings a lot of traffic into the Borough from the Treesdale area.
- An existing six-acre vacant site located approximately ¼-mile west of Pittsburgh Street on the north side of Route 228 is believed to already have an approved PennDOT access.
- Mars Borough has a two-acre site for future development with access via Anderson Avenue off of Beaver Street Extension.

*Other PennDOT Connects Initiative Topics*

- PennDOT Connects aims to collaborate with communities and stakeholders to gather relevant information and input earlier in the project development process.
- Mike Fleming noted the one-on-one meetings with each entity appear to be more productive than broader large-group settings or public meetings.
- It was noted that Beaver Street may be heavily impacted by traffic diversions during construction along Route 228. Diversion impacts to Myoma Road via Forsythe Road may also occur.
- It was noted that Mars Borough was not involved in public transportation, which would otherwise be handled by Butler County.

The above is a memorandum of understanding between the parties regarding the topics discussed and the decisions reached. Any participants desiring to add to, or otherwise amend the minutes, are requested to put their comments in writing to the writer within seven (7) days; otherwise, the minutes will stand as written.

  
Chad D. Reese, PE

