

ANIZDA Project Review Committee Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2022
America On Wheels
2nd Floor Meeting Room
5 North Front Street, Allentown, PA

Attendance.

Committee Members: Pedro Torres, Chair, Nelson Diaz, Tiffany Polek and Seymour Traub, Esquire, attended in-person. Dr. Ann Bieber attended via telephone.

Board Staff: Paul Frank (Solicitor), Steve Bamford (Executive Director) and Michelle Reid (Executive Assistant).

Presenter: Tom Williams, City of Allentown.

Members of the public and media were present.

1. **Call to Order.** The Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pedro Torres at 5:00 p.m. The meeting had been dutifully advertised in advance.
2. **Approval of August 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes.** A motion to approve the August 24, 2021 meeting minutes, as written, was made by S. Traub and seconded by N. Diaz. The public was given the opportunity to comment. No comment(s) or change request(s) were received. The minutes were approved by a vote of 5-0.
3. **Public Comment on all Matters to be Acted Upon.** Members of the public were present, but comments were deferred until matters were to be acted upon.
4. **Old Business.** None.
5. **New Business.**
 - a. 1000 and 1100 Blocks of Hamilton Street Sidewalks and Crosswalks Application for Parcel Transfer and Replacement--City of Allentown.

S. Bamford reported on February 09, 2022, the City of Allentown presented three applications to the Public Improvements Committee for streetscape improvement projects. One of those applications was for a project in the 900, 1000 and 1100 blocks of Hamilton Street. Currently, the western boundary line of the NIZ ends at 10th Street; therefore, the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Hamilton Street are not in the NIZ.

At their February 09, 2022 meeting, the ANIZDA Public Improvements Committee voted to recommend the streetscape project, conditioned upon the Project Review Committee's favorable action on the City of Allentown's Application for a parcel transfer and replacement.

The transfer application includes signed consents and certificates indicating the proposed acreage to be transferred into the NIZ does not generate any tax or other revenues for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, City of Allentown, County of Lehigh or Allentown School District. The 0.85 acres of land proposed to be transferred into the NIZ in the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Hamilton Street would consist of the sidewalks and crosswalks in the public right-of-way.

Tom Williams, from the City of Allentown, then discussed the Application. The request is to transfer 0.85 acres of land in Bucky Boyle Park out of the NIZ and 0.85 acres in the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Hamilton Street into the NIZ for a streetscape improvements project. He commented the streetscape project is necessary because this portion of Hamilton Street is the primary gateway corridor from the west into the central business district and currently the area is in disrepair. The goals of this streetscape project are increased pedestrian safety, accessibility, ADA compliance, aesthetic and welcoming appeal, improved curb appeal, support other investments along Hamilton Street, encourage future residential and retail, and connect neighborhoods to downtown.

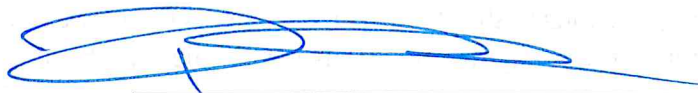
The streetscape project would include new ADA compliant sidewalks, 107 new streetlights (94 single head and 13 double head), 101 new street trees, corner landscape planters, improved pedestrian crosswalks, new trash and recycling receptacles, 13 bicycle racks, 8 parking kiosks and 30 new benches.

Mr. Williams noted that the NIZ boundary would need to be extended in order to accommodate this project.

A motion to recommend the 1000 and 1100 blocks of Hamilton Street sidewalks and crosswalks application for parcel transfer and replacement to the ANIZDA Board for consideration was made by S. Traub and seconded by T. Polek. The public was given the opportunity to comment. No comment(s) or change request(s) were received. The motion was approved by a vote of 5-0.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Pedro Torres, Jr., Chairperson