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Upper Darby Township Committee Meeting
May 5, 2021

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MINUTES FOR COMMITTEE MEETING OF MAY 5, 2021

The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on youtube.com/upperdarby.org

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America

Moment of Silence

Opening of Meeting

Roll Call

Hafiz Tunis Jr. (HT), Robert S. Gwin Jr. (RG), Michelle Billups (MB), Matt Silva (MS), Danyelle Blackwell (DB), Brian K. Burke (BB), Sheikh Siddique (SS), Lisa Faraglia (LF), Donald P. Bonnet (DPB), Thomas P. Wagner (TW), Laura A. Wentz (LW)

Present at the Meeting

Mayor Barbarann Keffer
CAO Vincent A Rongione, Esq.
Alison Dobbins, Deputy CAO
Alexis Cicchitti, Chief Municipal Clerk
Mike Galante, Township Engineer
Solicitor Sean Kilkenny
Solicitor Courtney Richardson

Guests

Annie Nesmith, Member of CRCQL (Chester Residents Concerned for Quality of Living)
Mike Ewall, Founder & Director of Energy Justice Network
Kevin R. Godshall, AIA, Principal of GKO Architects
Susan Feenan, Architectural/Interior Designer of GKO Architects
Kyle Kessler, Traffic Engineer from McMann & Associates
Tim Brennan, Civil Engineer from Nate Newell Associates
Kim Freimuth, Solicitor for UD School District

Rules for Meeting Decorum

“Upper Darby Township Council and Residents will maintain professional respect for each other. Council encourages free speech, however, civility is required which would prohibit threats, profanity, scandalous, impertinent and redundant comment or any comment the discernible purpose of which is to disrupt or prevent the conduct of the business of the meeting”

Presentation for the Zero Waste Resolution

Speakers: Annie Nesmith and Mike Ewall

The Presenters spoke of the Covanta Delaware Valley trash incinerator located in Chester, Pennsylvania, which is the largest incinerator in the country and one of the largest in the world. This incinerator in number one in Delaware County for toxic mercury emissions and the county’s largest industrial source of nitrogen oxide

pollution. The Presenters urge Upper Darby Township to adopt the Zero Waste Hierarchy and urge countywide transition to Zero Waste.

The entire presentation can be viewed online.

Presentation for land development at 8201 Lansdowne Avenue

***See attached**

Mayor Keffer inquired about the automotive service relocating and the effect it would have repairing the school buses. Mr. Godshall responded that the service repair shop is a private owned business that was renting space from the School District. They are separate from the district mechanics that service the school buses. The building for the district mechanics will remain on site.

The entire presentation can be viewed online.

Public Forum

Gerald Harrison of 29 South Kirklyn Avenue inquired about the presentation on the incinerator located in Chester. He is appalled that the company operating this incinerator is permitted to continue this operation when it is contributing to the pollution in Chester. He also expressed his pleasure of the proposed land development at 8201 Lansdowne Avenue. However, he is concerned about the current condition of the property located at the edge of the baseball field and Delaware Avenue. LW asked that Mr. Godshall respond to Mr. Harrison's concern. Mr. Godshall stated that this property is a PECO Right-Of-Way. Therefore, this piece of land is *not* included in the proposed land development.

Dolores Lombardy of 29 South Kirklyn Avenue expressed her gratitude for the proposed improvement of the site located at 8201 Lansdowne Avenue.

Approval of the Minutes for Committee Meeting of April 7, 2021. Motion to approve: MB/SS Moved and seconded. All in favor. The Minutes for April 7, 2021 are approved.

The Honorable Mayor Barbarann Keffer

Good evening everyone,

A couple of updates...

This Saturday, Upper Darby residents are invited to bring confidential shredding materials and E-waste, such as unwanted laptops, cell phones, and other personal devices, to the Identity Theft Protection Event at Upper Darby High School. It will start at 9 am and go until 12 pm or the trucks are full.

Per COVID-19 safety protocols, please keep a distance of six feet from others in addition, wear a mask at all times.

There is a limit of two boxes of shredding materials per vehicle, in addition, please note that we are not able to accept televisions at this event.

Following up on my previous comments about the Zoning Hearing Board and the proposed development of the Thompson Tract, I have seen the full presentation including the gift of over 3 acres to the township as real open space (and not undeveloped private land). While we would like to see new housing inventory and

environmentally conscience development, my Administration does not support this project at this time. That being said, the ZHB is a quasi-judicial, independent body comprised of Upper Darby residents that hears each application (and anyone is able to submit an application to the Zoning Hearing Board) and makes decisions based on the merits of each application.

As Mayor, I do not dictate how the ZHB votes. The ZHB exists to provide checks and balances so that all applicants are assured a fair process.

One of the many pluses of looking at and thinking about this project resulted in my submission to Penn DOT to do a safety study focused on the stretch of Providence Road that encompasses the Thompson Tract and the Penn Pines and Hilldale neighborhoods. I look forward to hearing Penn Dot's findings and recommendations.

My office has been contacted by a non-profit organization called Forum Philly with a request to support the Delaware County Juneteenth Observance and Community Fair that is being planned for Saturday, June 19, at Upper Darby High School. We are pleased to support this event, which is intended to celebrate African American culture and history and which is permitted through the school district, and we encourage Upper Darby residents and organizations to do so as well.

Please direct any questions about this event to Reverend Doctor Malcolm Byrd via email at forumphilly@gmail.com.

Proclamations

It is my honor to issue two proclamations this evening; the first is in recognition of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, which is May 2 through May 8.

***See attached.**

The second proclamation is in recognition of May 2021 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

***See attached.**

The Honorable Mayor Barbarann Keffer (Continued)

Yesterday, Governor Tom Wolf announced that current COVID-19 restrictions would be lifted effective Memorial Day, May 31. Once Pennsylvania reaches a 70% vaccination rate among adults, the mask mandate will be lifted as well. If you have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccine, please call 484-276-2100 or visit www.delcopa.gov/vax to register for an appointment.

It is vitally important that everyone be vaccinated as soon as possible so that we can get back so we can get back to life without masks.

If you need to schedule an appointment and are having any difficulty doing so, please email mayor@upperdarby.org or call 610-734-7625.

We are all in this together, and we are here to help.

Speaking of help, it is my pleasure to thank everyone associated with the Upper Darby Summer Stage Program who has worked so hard to make it possible to offer opportunities for children to attend this summer.

Thank you and have a great evening.

President of Council, Laura A. Wentz

LW thanked all the volunteers, including Chief Sawyer and the Highland Park Firefighters for their hard work with the Clean Ups throughout the Township. She thanked the Events Committee for hosting another Job Fair. She further stated that Scott Alberts is working out the issues with the ballot box located at the Township building, in preparation for the Primary Election on May 18, 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Public Safety Committee

Co-Chairs: Danyelle Blackwell & Brian K. Burke

Members: Hafiz Tunis Jr., Matt Silva

Resolution No. 24-21, a Resolution to install stop signs on Llanfair Road at the intersection with Keystone Avenue

Solicitor Kilkenny gave a brief on Resolution No. 24-21.

***This item will be placed on the May 26, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda**

BB announced that the Committee would have an informational meeting with Assistant Chief Johnson about the financial responsibilities for the junior fire fighters.

Finance and Appropriations Committee

Co-Chairs: Robert S. Gwin Jr. & Matt Silva

Members: Danyelle Blackwell, Brian Burke

Resolution No. 26-21, a Resolution of Upper Darby Township, Delaware County, Pennsylvania approving the application for the Walk Works Grant

Solicitor Kilkenny gave a brief on Resolution No. 26-21.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 26-21. MS/RG: Moved and seconded.

RG questioned the amount of funds that would be attributed. Solicitor Kilkenny deferred to Deputy CAO Dobbins. Deputy CAO Dobbins responded that she would forward this information to RG. She further stated that this project falls within our Budget.

All in favor. Resolution No. 26-21 is approved.

Planning, Zoning and Building Code Committee

Co-Chairs: Robert S. Gwin Jr., & Michelle Billups

Members: Donald P. Bonnett, Hafiz Tunis Jr.

Resolution No. 27-21, a Resolution of Upper Darby Township amending the final subdivision of MC Investments and lot line adjustment for the properties located at 8645 and 8649 West Chester Pike

Solicitor Richardson gave a brief on Resolution No. 27-21.

LW asked why this project had been delayed from 2016. Mr. Galante stated that previously there was a motion of approval. However, there are no records of the plan. Therefore, it is necessary to update the Resolution.

RG asked if all members of the Committee agreed to move forward with this Resolution. All members agreed.

***This item will be placed on the May 26, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda**

Resolution No. 28-21, a Resolution of Upper Darby Township granting preliminary/final land development plan approval to the Upper Darby School District for facilities and transportation building renovations at 8201 N. Lansdowne Avenue

Solicitor Kilkenny gave a brief on Resolution No. 28-21. He stated that this is a work in progress. It is not meant to be considered a *full* Resolution, since it will be revised after being presented to the Committee.

LW asked that Mr. Galante provide clarification for the waivers. Mr. Galante responded that these waivers are standard, considering there are minor building improvements. He further stated that he is working with the applicant to separate the roof drains so they may drain into the ground and not into the system.

DPB requested that the Planning, Zoning and Building Code Committee, the District Councilperson representing the location of the land development, and the taxpayers, given the plans in advance. DPB believes that the Township has an obligation to present this type of project to the public to express their views. Mayor Keffer pointed out the fact that this project is taking place on the School District's property. Therefore, the responsibility falls mainly on the School District. However, the Township will not fall short doing their part as needed.

In conclusion, LW stated that the Law and Government & Rules and Procedures Committee would discuss and decide on the policy pertaining to notifying Council concerning proposed land developments.

HT requested a meeting between the Committee and one of the Solicitors.

***This item will be placed on the May 26, 2021 Council Meeting Agenda**

Public Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

Co-Chairs: Hafiz Tunis Jr. & Matt Silva

Members: Michelle Billups, Sheikh M. Siddique

RG suggested that the Township look into alternative recycling containers that are more efficient with containment and preventing contamination. Deputy CAO Dobbins responded that the Administration is exploring options for more efficient recycling containers.

HT reported that Latino Connection, in partnership with Delaware County and State Representative Davidson, is hosting a vaccination site at Barclay Square on May 19, 2021. He will forward the information.

Municipal Services, Licensing and Public Works Committee

Co-Chairs: Sheikh M. Siddique & Hafiz Tunis Jr.

Members: Thomas P. Wagner, Brian K. Burke

BB asked about the progress with the Capital spending on the Public Works Projects. Deputy CAO Dobbins stated that the Township received the funds to move forward with these projects. BB asked for an updated expenditures report to be sent directly to each Committee. Deputy CAO Dobbins responded that she would look into this.

Law and Government & Rules and Procedures Committee

Co-Chairs: Michelle Billups & Matt Silva

Members: Sheikh M. Siddique, Danyelle Blackwell

MB suggested installing "*No Littering*" signs as a tool to encourage the public to keep our Township clean. Solicitor Kilkenny stated that this is an option that Council would propose to the Administration.

Leisure Services Committee

Co-Chairs: Hafiz Tunis Jr. & Matt Silva

Members: Lisa Faraglia, Danyelle Blackwell

SS stated there is equipment at the Cardington Playground that needs repairing/replacing.

RG requested installing basketball courts at the Naylor's Run Playground. Mayor Keffer responded that RG should report this to the Request Department and send a copy to Joe Martin. RG asked about the status for the studies and designs reports for three parks conducted by the previous Administration. Mayor Keffer stated that the Administration have been reviewing these reports; However, it takes time and money.

Event Planning Committee

Co-Chairs: Michelle Billups & Danyelle Blackwell

Members: Hafiz Tunis Jr., Matt Silva

MB announced that the Job Fair will take place on May 25, 2021 between 3:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. She encouraged everyone to share information about an employer or vendor interested in participating.

SS stated that the Muslim Community of Upper Darby and Delaware County is hosting an event on the Cardington Field. He will send confirmation of the date and time next Monday.

RG suggested making contact with food establishments.

LW suggested sharing the flyer for the Job Fair with the local Business Associations within the Township.

Solicitor

Solicitor Richardson reported that they have been working on the various Resolutions and Ordinances, along with the St. Eugene's property. She further stated they were victorious in front of the Zoning Hearing Board. They opposed a billboard on Garrett Road.

BB asked for clarification about the court process of the opposition towards the billboard. Solicitor Richardson stated that they appealed the approval of the billboard on behalf of the Township. The Delaware County Board of Appeals referred them back to the Zoning Hearing Board and they denied the billboard.

Old Business

BB asked for an update on the Drexeline Shopping Center. Solicitor Kilkenny stated that the builders have approval from the Township to proceed with the project. Mr. Galante responded that there are two remaining approvals from FEMA and DEP that need to be accepted before the developer can *break ground*.

TW requested that the School District submit to Council the feedback from the public concerning the proposed land development at 8201 Lansdowne Avenue. He also requested copies of the notifications that were given to the public informing them about this project.

SS asked for an update about his concerns of the condition of the sidewalk at Old Marshall Road and Church Lane. Mayor Keffer stated that she is working with Mr. Galante to determine the party responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalk.

Mayor Keffer announced that they have begun installing video cameras to monitor the streets and sidewalks.

New Business

MB stated that she is conducting a cleanup at the Second Ward Playground on May 22. She also stated that a constituent contacted the Request Department about installing a "*No Parking*" sign on Calvin Road. HT requested to receive a copy of this request because it falls within the boundaries of his District. LW reminded MB to have this request sent to Chief Municipal Clerk, Alexis Cicchitti, for processing.

MS stated that he would be doing a cleanup at Creek Road this Sunday. This *Clean Up* is in conjunction with the opening of the Swedish Cabin.

DB gave thanks to all the teachers for *Teachers Appreciation Week*. She also announced the nomination of Alexis Cicchitti for *the 2021 Municipal Clerks Honor Roll*.

LW stated that she would post this link on the Council Facebook Page so that others may nominate her.

DPB stated that a business on Sylvia Road and Township Line Road should be shut down due to zoning violations. He asked that Solicitor Kilkenny look into this issue to determine whether the Township has the authority to shut down this business. Solicitor Kilkenny responded that he would confer with the Director of L&I and the Administration.

Mayor Keffer asked Deputy CAO Dobbins to share some information. Deputy CAO Dobbins reported that State Representative Zabel is hosting a Job Fair on May 13 at 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at the Clifton Heights Athletic Field. The Deputy CAO further stated that the Township would be conducting interviews for seasonal Public Works positions along with recruiting other positions within the Township.

LW thanked Fire Chief Sawyer for attending this meeting.

Motion to adjourn: MS/SS: Moved and seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alexis Cicchitti

Alexis Cicchitti
Chief Municipal Clerk

The video of this meeting can be viewed in its entirety on youtube.com/upperdarby.org

**Upper Darby Township
Delaware County, Pennsylvania**

Resolution No. 26-21

A RESOLUTION OF UPPER DARBY TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR THE WALKWORKS GRANT.

WHEREAS, Upper Darby Township (“Township”) has long recognized the importance of its unique and walkable neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, in its most recent comprehensive plan, the Township has identified the improvement of the community’s walkable amenities and enhancements as one of its guiding principles; and

WHEREAS, the isolated and stationary measures required to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 has reinforced the importance of a walkable community in maintaining a healthy lifestyle; and

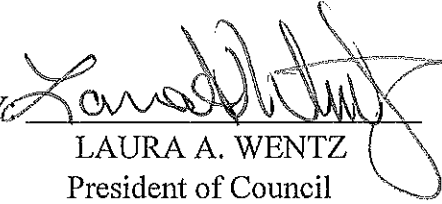
WHEREAS, the sedentary lifestyle imposed upon the community due to the COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the important health benefits of a walkable community; and

WHEREAS, Upper Darby Township Council believes it to be in the interest of the Township to apply for the WalkWorks Grant and utilize the funding to help with the development of policies, such as Complete Streets or Vision Zero that includes language in support of environmental changes for enhancing places for physical activity with an emphasis on walking, biking, wheeling and public transit.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it, and it is hereby **RESOLVED** by the Upper Darby Township Council, and it is hereby **ADOPTED** and **RESOLVED** by authority of same as follows:

1. The Chief Administrative Officer, or his designee, is hereby authorized to apply for the WalkWorks grant.
2. The Chief Administrative Officer, or his designee, is hereby authorized to utilize the funding, if received, in accordance with the WalkWorks grant.


ADOPTED and **RESOLVED** by the Upper Darby Township Council this 5th day of May, 2021.

BY: 
LAURA A. WENTZ
President of Council

ATTEST: 
MICHELLE BILLUPS
Secretary of Council

Resolution No. 26-21 is hereby approved this 5th day of May, 2021

BY: 
BARBARANN KEFFER
Mayor

ATTEST: 
VINCENT A. RONGIONE, ESQ.
Chief Administrative Officer



GODSHALL KANE O'ROURKE ARCHITECTS, LLC



UPPER DARBY
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PRESENTATION FOR:

**8201 LANSDOWNE AVENUE
UPPER DARBY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

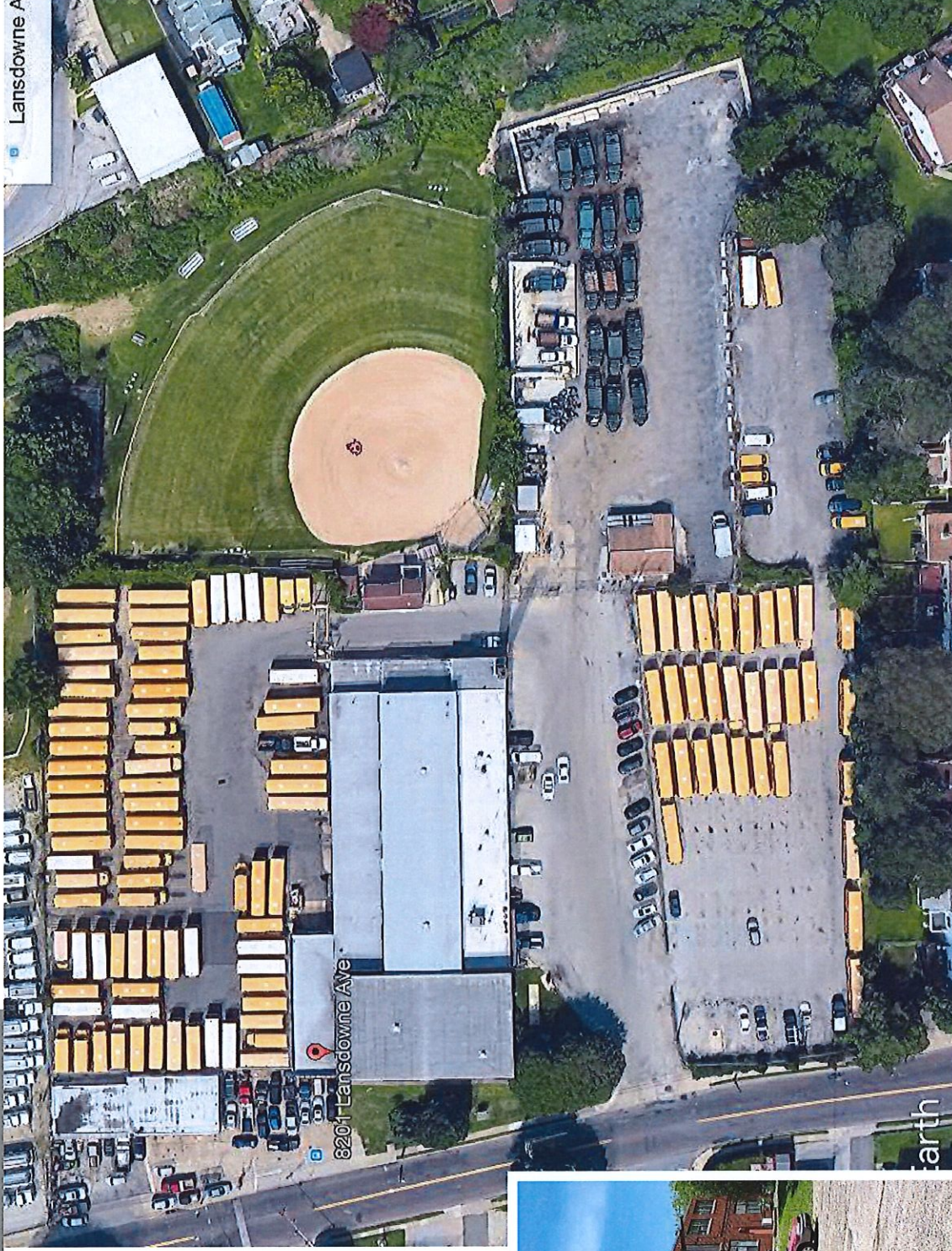
**UPPER DARBY TOWNSHIP
COUNCIL MEETING**

MAY 5, 2021

Project Scope

Existing Functions to Remain:

- Facilities & Maintenance Departments
 - Offices
 - District Mechanics
- Transportation Department
 - Transportation Offices & Dispatch (Including Radio Tower)
 - Current Bus fleet
 - Repair Mechanics
 - Fueling Operations (Buses & Sanitation Trucks)
- Baseball Field



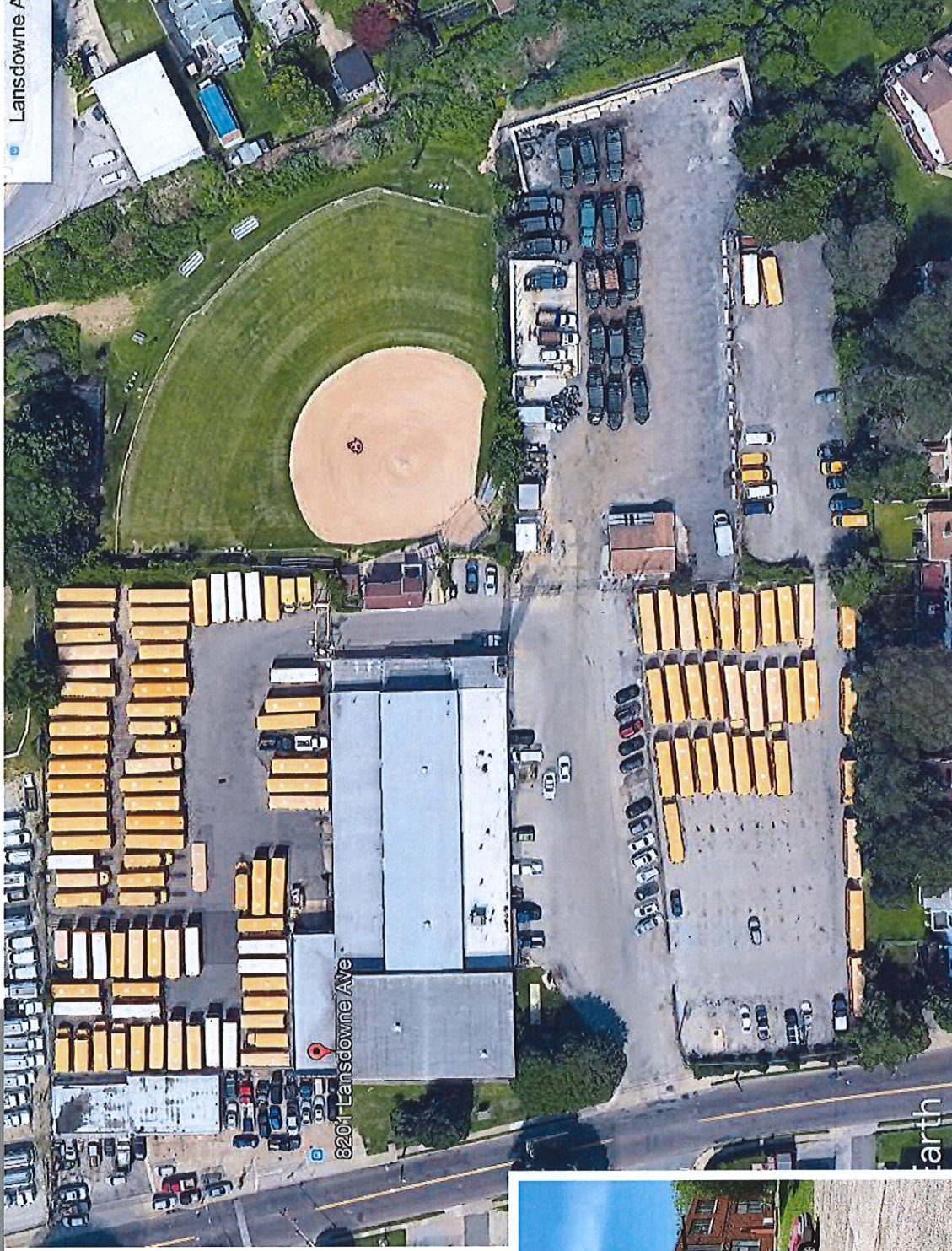
Project Scope

Functions Removed:

- ❑ Private Auto Repair Garage
- ❑ Sanitation Department
 - Vehicles & Office Building

Site Functions Added:

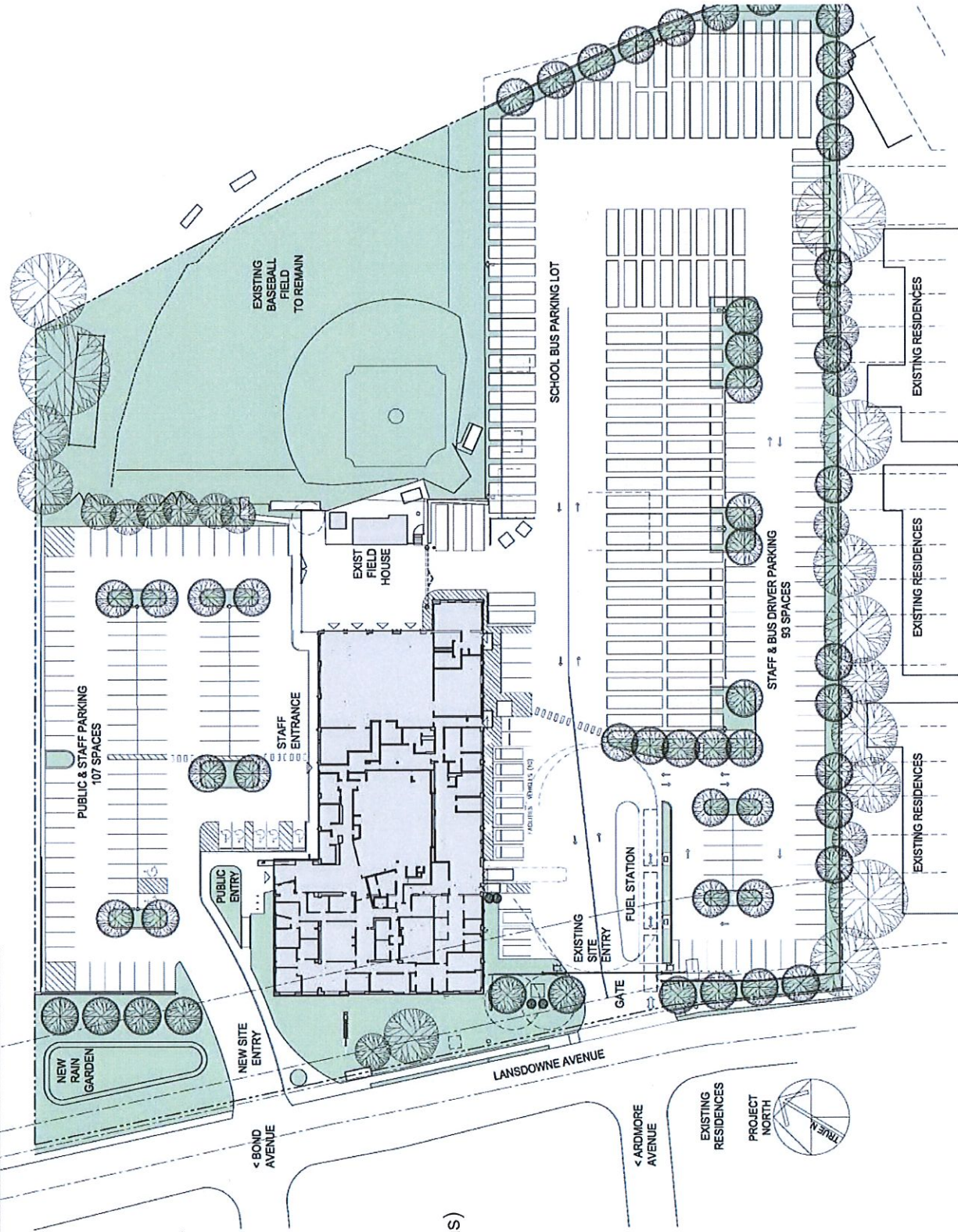
- ❑ District Administrative Offices
 - Superintendent
 - Business & Finance
 - Curriculum
 - Human Resources



Proposed Site Improvement

Description / Summary

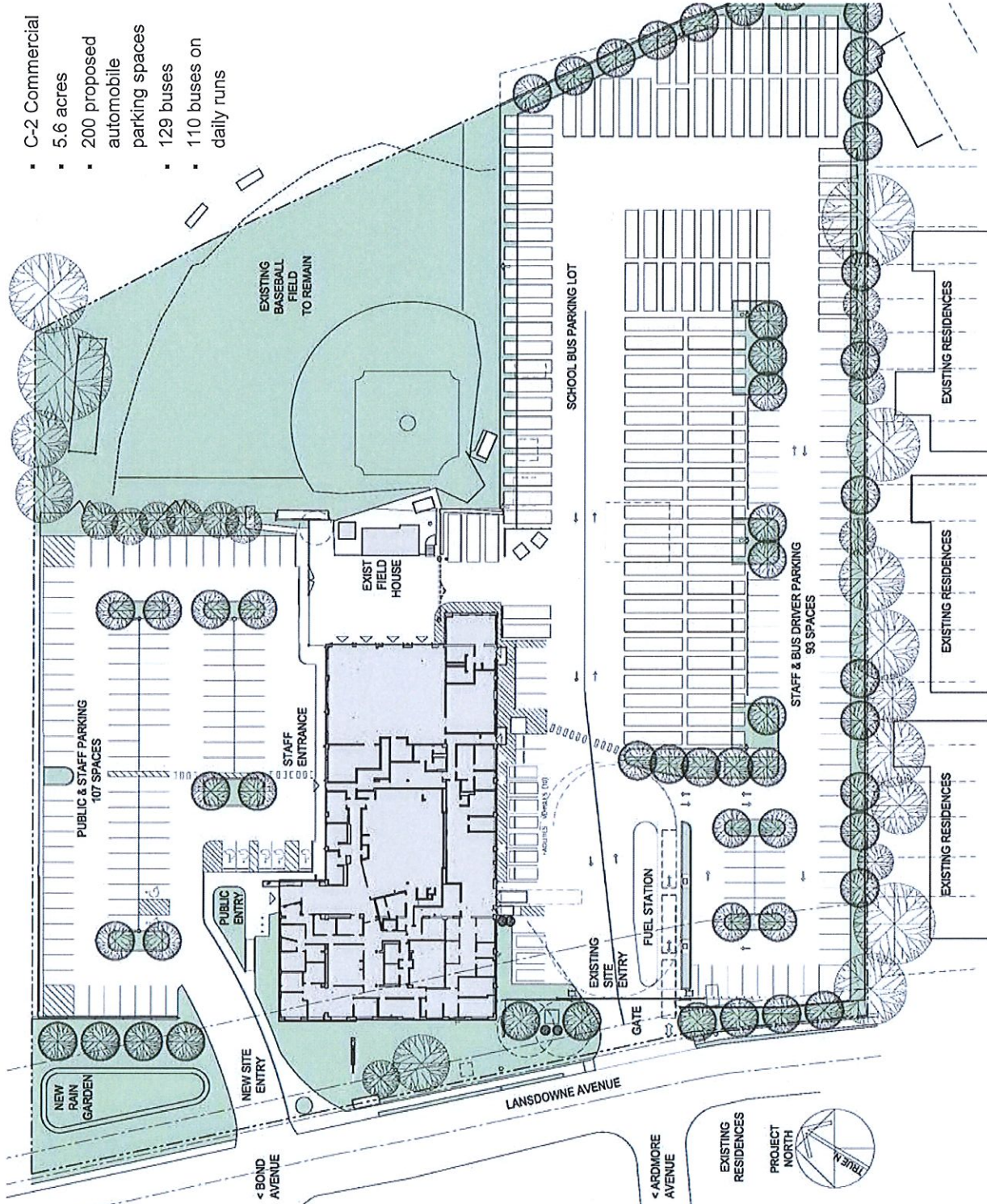
- C-2 Commercial
- Impervious Reduction below Zoning limit of 70%
- Existing Site 5.6 acres
- 200 proposed automobile parking spaces
- 129 buses
 - (110 buses make daily runs)
- Waivers Requested



Proposed Site Improvement

- North - Public Access
 - New Vehicle Access Drive
 - New Public Building Entry w/ safe Pedestrian Access.
 - Parking for Visitors & District Administration
 - Safe Access to Baseball Field
- South - Operations
 - District Owned Buses & Vans
 - Increased Bus Driver Parking
 - New Fueling Station
 - Lot Secured & Screened by fence
 - Dumpsters in middle of the site
- Collaboration w/ Township
 - Pedestrian Circulation Zones
 - Landscape Islands
 - Residential Landscape Buffer
 - Landscape Buffer against Lansdowne Avenue
 - Fuel Station Stacking & Turning Radius
 - Controlled Site Lighting

- C-2 Commercial
- 5.6 acres
- 200 proposed automobile parking spaces
- 129 buses
- 110 buses on daily runs



Community Benefits

Eliminate Auto Repair Garage

- Tenant & their Vehicles already Removed
- Existing Building and Concrete Parking Area will be removed in their entirety.
 - Underground Storage Tanks removed in accordance with EPA Requirements
- Proposed Landscaped Rain Garden replaces concrete.

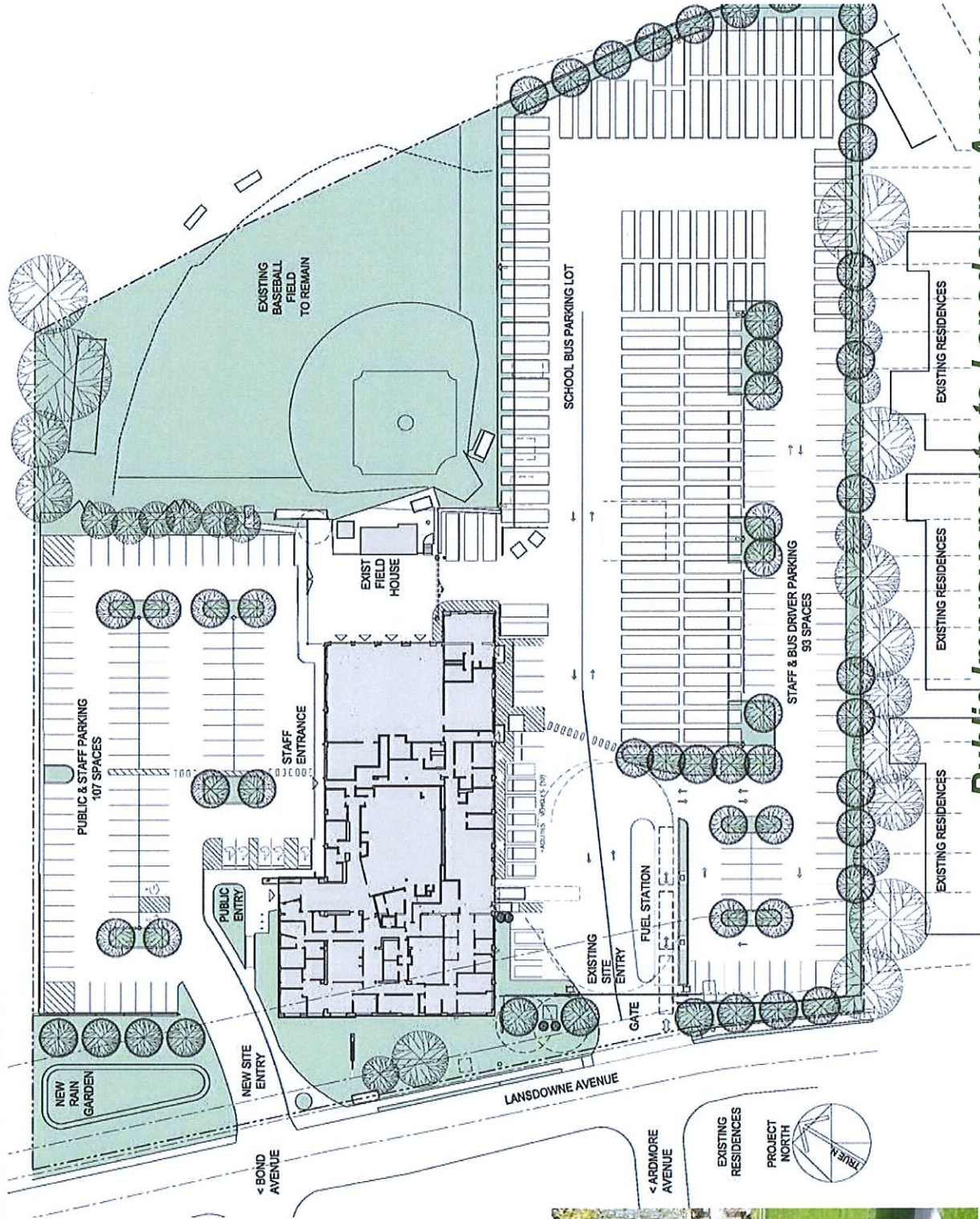


Replace Automobile Service Station with Green Landscape

Community Benefits

Public Street Improvements

- New Bus Shelter at Lansdowne & Bond Avenues.
- New Sidewalks along Lansdowne Avenue.
- PennDot providing ADA curb cuts & pedestrian signaling at Bond Avenue
- Landscape Buffers



Public Improvements to Lansdowne Avenue



Community Benefits

Improvements to the Building

- New Windows
- New Exterior Doors
- Repointing of Exterior Brick
- New Public Entrance w/ Pedestrian Access
- **Sustainable Design Elements:**
 - Adding Insulation to the building Envelope to increase the R-value and meet modern Energy Codes.
 - New LED Lighting in Building.
 - Increased Energy Efficiency w/ new modern HVAC Systems
 - Bicycle Parking
 - Stormwater Management & Landscape Islands



Improve the Building Condition and Appearance

Community Benefits

Lighting Control

- Replace inefficient, uncontrolled Site Lighting.
- New LED Site and Building Lighting
- Glare Control of Fixtures
- No light spill onto Neighboring Properties



Controlled Lighting with 100% cut-off at Property Line

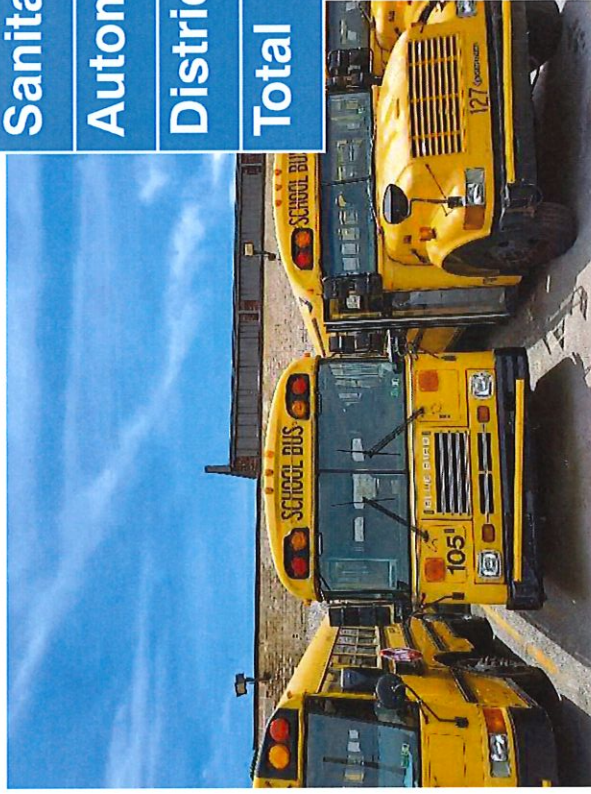
UPPER DARBY SD – DISTRICT OFFICE & OPERATIONS FACILITY

May 5, 2021 - Slide: 9

Community Benefits

Reduced Site Traffic

- Reduced number of People on Site.
- Same number of Buses and trips.
- Approx. 124 Sanitation Truck daily trips eliminated
- Only 12 Sanitation Trucks will refuel at front of lot (daily)



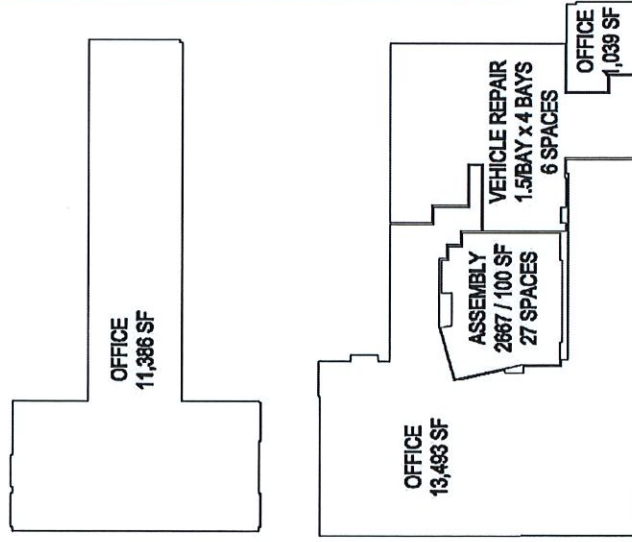
AREA	CURRENT	FUTURE
Facilities Office	4	4
IT Support	4	4
Maintenance	10	10
Transportation Office	7	7
Transportation Mechanics	4	4
Tenant Spaces	--	--
Sanitation Department	68	0
Automotive Repair Station	5	0
District Administration	0	58
Total	102	87

Overall Reduction in People and Vehicular Traffic

Appendix

Assessment of Parking Required by Ordinance

- 75-80 Existing Parking Spaces for Offices, Staff and Drivers
- 200 Parking Spaces Proposed on current Plan



	Basis of Calculation	Daily Use	Evening Use	
OFFICE SPACE	1 sp / 300 sf (29,000 / 300)	97	--	Includes Main Meeting Room. Does not include Vehicle Repair calculated below.
VEHICLE REPAIR	1.5 space per bay x 4 bays	6	--	
	5 spaces per bay	N/A	--	We assume this is to account for vehicles in various state of repair. Because our mechanics are maintaining a District owned fleet, the number of spaces is known, exceeds the code requirement and is accounted for separately on the site.
MAIN MEETING ROOM	1 sp / 100 sf 2700 sf / 100		27	There is precedent for this in the ordinance where under religious institutions fellowship halls and churches are assumed not to be occupied simultaneously. Board Room activities only occur in the evening when office workers and other employees are not on site.
Totals		103	27	



Proposed Site Improvement

Questions?





Upper Darby

A Home Rule Community
Established 1736

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, The heritage of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders was initially honored by the federal government in 1978. In 1992, the recognition of their heritage was expanded to a month-long observance in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have histories and cultures that are thousands of years old; and

WHEREAS, the month of May was chosen to commemorate the first recorded immigration of people from Japan to the United States in May 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869, by a majority of Chinese immigrant workers who laid the tracks; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have enriched our social, intellectual, and artistic life in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made valuable contributions to all areas of life in Delaware County, including government, business, arts and sciences, medicine, education, law enforcement, and the military; and

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month helps us to appreciate the diversity of our residents in Upper Darby; and by recognizing their contributions to our community, we acknowledge the importance of inclusion as we strive to create a better future for everyone; and

WHEREAS, while all ethnic groups have made significant contributions to our country, the recent dramatic spike in violence and hate crimes against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders during the COVID-19 pandemic has heightened the need for awareness of the discrimination they are facing on a daily basis.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Barbarann Keffer, Mayor of Upper Darby Township, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as

Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

in Upper Darby Township and encourage the entire community to recognize and participate in its observance.

Barbarann Keffer, Mayor
Upper Darby Township
Delaware County, Pennsylvania



Upper Darby

A Home Rule Community
Established 1736

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, because good mental health is a vital component in a child's overall development and well-being, Children's Mental Health Week provides the opportunity to focus on this important matter, while celebrating the accomplishments of children and families affected by mental health concerns; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 6 children between ages 2 and 8 is diagnosed with a mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that the early identification and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children and adolescents provide them with better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, children and adolescents with mental health challenges and their families benefit from access to timely services and support systems that are family-driven, youth-guided and culturally appropriate; they also benefit from the integration of behavioral health in primary care, education, and child welfare; and

WHEREAS, it is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that schools, health care providers, families, and the community at large work together to erase the stigma that may accompany mental health challenges in children and adolescents;

NOW, THEREFORE I, Barbarann Keffer, Mayor, do hereby proclaim May 2 – 8, 2021 as

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

in Upper Darby Township and urge my fellow residents to recognize and participate in its observance.

Barbarann Keffer, Mayor
Upper Darby Township
Delaware County, Pennsylvania