

Thornbury Township
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Thornbury Township Officials:

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Joseph Lisa, Supervisor
Robert Wiggins, Supervisor
Judy Lizza, Manager
Teresa DeStefano, Secretary

May 15, 2020

Memo: ROBINSON TRACT (EPS 196830) - Off-Site Intersection Concept Plans Submission
(April 6th)

The Thornbury Township Supervisors have reviewed the concept plan. They have consulted with the Township Traffic Engineer and the Township's Historic Commission. A copy of the report from Frank Tavani is under separate cover. The following are additional comments to share.

Thornbury Township has a classification system of its Resources adopted by Ordinance. A Class 1 Resource is defined as a resource that has been designated as a National Historic landmark. A Class 2 resources has local, state, or national architectural or historical significance and therefore are worthy of inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

1. The proposed intersection impacts a Class 1 Resource, the Brandywine Battlefield National Landmark, on the southwest corner which requires special obligations of protection. If this was not a national park, the solution would be to keep building more infrastructure. But the National Park Service has a dual mandate from Congress: to "provide for the enjoyment in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Wider roads would only reassure sprawl, diminish the experience of nature, and encourage yet more traffic. The traffic experience to use S. New Street is due to the lack of any significant improvements on 202.
2. 760 West Street Road ("Chimney House") is a Class 2 Historic Resource. The Chimney House is significant for what it tells us about the evolution of the use of serpentine stone as a construction material. Second, it is significant for the role it played during and just after the Battle of the Brandywine. The plan as drawn will need further study, including but not limited to:
 - a. research of possible foundation conflicts and provide mitigation for any impacts
 - b. utilities should be located including water and septic to investigate any impacts to services.
 - c. powerlines currently encroach on the house; relocation of power lines in the vicinity to Westtown Township side of the road should be considered to lessen impacts to the Chimney House

3. If the project would continue as proposed traffic calming or mitigation should be considered on S. New Street in Thornbury Township to protect the safety of farm crossings
4. Alternatives or options should be considered to reduce impact on resources if a turning lane is required
 - a. For example, reroute the intersection to be located entirely on the Crebilly property
 - b. Development of a roundabout on the Toll Brothers parcel
5. Plans for the township include a pedestrian crosswalk at this intersection to connect Crebilly Farm to the rest of the Brandywine Battlefield trail system. Considerations for pedestrian crossing should be included.

Thank you for allowing the township the opportunity to comment.

Best regards,


Judy Lizza
Township Manager