



**Council Minutes  
Via Zoom Due to COVID-19  
Public Health Emergency  
January 11, 2021**

The Council of the City of Shaker Heights met in a special meeting at 7:01 p.m., Mayor David E. Weiss presiding.

Council Members Present: Mr. Malone  
Mrs. Moore  
Mr. Roeder  
Ms. Anne Williams  
Ms. Carmella Williams  
Mr. Earl Williams (joined at 7:15 p.m.)  
Mr. Zimmerman

Council Members Absent: None

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Audio of this meeting may be found [here](#) through April 11, 2021.

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The Mayor asked the Clerk of Council to read into the record public comments received on the LPA agenda items.

CAO Chaikin stated that no public comments were received on the LPA agenda item by email or by phone.

Mayor Weiss offered those participating the opportunity to “raise their hand” to provide public comment.

Ms. Sutherland asked how far we are with the redesign of either of the intersections along Warrensville Center Road that she has heard are to be redesigned. She wanted to understand the sequence and the timing.

Mayor Weiss asked staff if they could address that as part of their presentation.

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**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

**Ordinance No. 21-01, by Mr. Rob Zimmerman, Authorizing a revised Local Public Agency (LPA) agreement with the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) in order to combine the Shaker Boulevard/Warrensville Center Road Intersection Reconfiguration Project with the Warrensville Center Road Resurfacing Project, and declaring an emergency.**

Planning Director Joyce Braverman stated that this request is to combine the three projects into one Local Public Agency (LPA) agreement with one project identification. Council combined two of these projects previously in October 2020, combining the resurfacing project of Warrensville Center Road from Farnsleigh to Fairmount, as well as from the southern City border to Norwood. The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) has asked us to combine these and we agree this is a good idea to combine the Shaker/Warrensville Center Road intersection reconfiguration with this, so these will all be on one project. This will allow for continuity between projects, minimize inconvenience for residents, and there will be a cost savings. In response to the question asked by Ms. Sutherland, the Shaker/Warrensville Center Road intersection is designed and ready to go to bid for the reconfiguration. We held two public meetings, in October 2019 and January 2020 with residents. In July we sent an update letter to residents to let them know we are going ahead to reconfigure that intersection. The plan is to close off Chesterton and South Park at Warrensville as you travel westbound. There will also be a change at Falmouth where you cannot enter Falmouth from Warrensville Center Road. This is all to create a safer intersection and better traffic flow on Warrensville Center Road. The packet distributed for this item includes a chart with the finances. Combining these projects now creates a project just over \$3 million with the City's contribution of over \$500,000. It is a little complicated because the intersection project has two different ODOT funding sources with two different match requirements, one of 20% and one with a 0% match. However, ODOT will not allow us to bid this project until we have signed the revised LPA agreement and it is approved by Council, signed, and processed by ODOT. The Safety and Public Works Committee discussed the size of the project and whether that would limit companies. At that time Public Works Director Patricia Speese explained we are looking for a large company that has the expertise, but this will not limit companies. They also asked about cost implications if this was not bid at this time. We estimate up to a 10% cost increase by waiting. It is our intent to move very quickly with signing the LPA agreement and getting it to ODOT so they can process and we can go to bid. This item is requested as an emergency with a suspension of the rules so that we can get this out to bid as soon as possible.

Council member Mr. Zimmerman stated that this item was reviewed and unanimously approved by the Safety and Public Works Committee. They were generally familiar with this and they spoke specifically about the LPA although they did not get into the nitty gritty of the project as this was a discreet aspect of it, but there was a good presentation.

Director Braverman stated that Ms. Sutherland also asked about the South Woodland and Warrensville Center Road intersection, but that is not under design yet. We have a grant application out to the state and we do not find out if we get those funds until June. We are waiting on the redesign of that intersection until we know if we have funding.

Council Mrs. Moore asked about clarification on the context of the 2020 street resurfacing budget and the total City contribution of \$1,243,915. She also asked if we normally allocate \$2 million for street resurfacing and if that means this would be the large chunk of that.

Director Speese stated that last year in anticipation of this project, when Council awarded the \$2.2 million, Director Speese set aside \$500,000 toward the \$1 million match required. Only \$500,000 of the \$2 million

