

1. Overview of flashing school zone lights on Rt. 772

- Approximately 2 years ago, Eric Kinard from Penn DOT contacted me to state that Rt. 772 was certified hazardous in 2015, so we should not have flashing school zone lights that limit the speed in front of the HS.
- Penn DOT's regulation states that students are not to be walking on hazardous roads, and flashing school zone signs are for walkers.
- We appealed twice while asking if any type of sign could be placed there.
- We were denied and told that if the District did not take the signs down then Penn DOT would at the District's expense.
- The District removed the signs prior to the start of the school year, and contacted Representative Zimmerman's office for assistance on the matter.
- During one phone call with Rep. Zimmerman he stated that, "Dealing with Penn DOT was like pulling teeth."
- On a subsequent call, Rep. Zimmerman said he finally got somewhere with Penn DOT. The District had to re-apply for the flashing lights and submit the application through Leacock Twp. In addition, he had the name of someone who would help walk us through the process Eric Kinard.
- The Application required engineered drawings of the signs and a traffic study that the District had to pay for.
- The traffic study does not seem to make a strong case for the need of traffic signs. I contacted the State Police and received a report of all traffic incidents within that block of road. That report was included along with the traffic study.
- The application packet was submitted to Leacock Twp. who quickly forwarded it on to Penn DOT.
- I e-mailed Eric Kinard, asking for an update on the Application, but have not yet heard back.

2. I attended PASBO's Facilities, Safety, and Transportation Workshop. One of the most impactful things that I learned is that many Pa Departments have adopted the federal procurement standards that were updated when ESSER funds became available. COSTARS is no longer accepted for bids, audits, and grants. It can be used as one price source as part of a competitive bid process, but cannot be the only price source. There are federally approved bid purchasing networks that are based on competitive bids. I will have to adjust some of our purchasing and bid practices moving forward. We already ran into this while filing for the safety grant. We wanted to purchase cameras through a COSTARS vendor, but were denied due to still needing to get three quotes.