

Coopersburg – East Station Ave. Streetscape Improvement Questions and Answers February 2020

Question 1: Why are the new Pedestrian Lights so close? Why so many?

Answer 1: East Station Avenue is a PennDOT road therefore subject to PennDOT lighting standards / regulations. PennDOT required them to be around 50' – 60' intervals to meet their lighting standards. Therefore, there are a total of 57 pedestrian lights from the Saucon Rail Trail to Horse Alley.

Question 2: Why are the new Pedestrian Lights so bright?

Answer 2: As mentioned in Answer 1 above, PennDOT sets the lighting standards (including required luminosity / brightness). As it turns out they set the installed luminosity at 130% of that required with the understanding that over time the lights will get dirty and eventually be dimmer meeting their target luminosity of 100%. The Borough is currently exploring, with the manufacturer, the possibility and cost of dimming them to the 100% and then turning it back to the 130% at appropriate time.

Question 3: Why are the new Pedestrian Light elements so glaring, and in some cases glaring directly into homes?

Answer 3: The Borough is currently exploring, with the manufacturer, different types of non-glare lenses and glare screens to address both issues.

Question 4: Why is the Borough designating individual parking spaces on East Station Avenue?

Answer 4: The Borough is planning on using "T" parking designation for a variety of reasons:

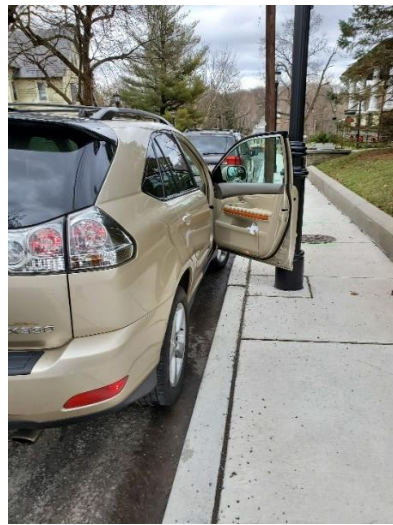
1. It addresses a long-standing problem of people sensing that there is not enough parking in some areas of town, when they really are just not sure where to park
2. It creates a visual narrowing of the street's travel lanes which will act as a traffic calming (slowing) device
3. It makes it much safer for drivers to park without having to place their tires up on sidewalk
4. It minimizes people from parking too close to driveways, fire plugs, intersections, etc.

Question 5: Is there enough space on the sidewalk behind the new Pedestrian Light poles to accommodate a walker or wheelchair?

Answer 5: Yes. The sidewalks on East Station Ave. have 36" (minimum) behind the new Pedestrian Light poles in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). However, there are a few places where property owner shrubbery is overhanging the back of sidewalk. This will be addressed with the property owner and corrected. Likewise, there is a place where a guardrail is overhanging the back of sidewalk by 1 ½". This too will be corrected.

Question 6: Will the parking space designations on East Station Ave. make it difficult for car door opening at new Pedestrian Light poles and old Utility Poles?

Answer 6: The new Pedestrian light poles are 18" from curb, so they do NOT block passenger side car door, even if next to door (see photos below).



The parking space designations will be 25' long, while the average car length is 18'+/- which should provide enough room to park where the passenger door(s) can open without interference with the utility pole.

Question 7: When will the texturized pedestrian crosswalks and parking designation be installed on East Station Ave.?

Answer 7: The texturized pedestrian crosswalks and parking designation will be installed in the spring of 2020.



Question 8: Why did East Station Ave. get a Streetscape and not Main St.?

Answer 8: The Borough is implementing its master Streetscape, Rail Trails, & Town Center / Public Square Park plan in keeping with the grants received for each part of the plan. The East Station Ave. grant came in first.

The Streetscape for most of Main St. and West State St., from Main to Young Ave., are granted and currently under final design. It is the Borough's intent to put this portion out for bids in 2020 with construction in 2020-2021. The West State St. streetscape will not include Pedestrian Streetlights as the sidewalks are too narrow.

Question 9: Where can I get more info about Coopersburg's Streetscape Plan?

Answer 9: <http://www.coopersburgborough.org/streetscape/>