

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Building & Planning

Issue Briefing

Topic: Environmental Advisory Council Membership Ordinance

Prepared by: Robert Duncan, Assistant Manager

Date: November 13, 2020

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Authorize the advertisement of an Ordinance to amend the Code of the Township of Lower Merion Chapter 13, Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), Section 13-2, Composition, to increase the maximum composition of the Council from seven to nine; alternatively, the Board may appoint two alternate members to serve if needed to create a quorum.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

The Board of Commissioners must adopt amendments to increase advisory board memberships.

III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable): N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

Chapter 13 of the Lower Merion Code establishes the membership requirements for the EAC. The EAC currently has a seven-member board appointed by the Board of Commissioners. They have expressed an interest and have made a recommendation to increase the membership to nine members to assist with the numerous projects they are currently working on. The EAC believes additional members are necessary to accomplish their goals.

This ordinance has been drafted with language that includes an increase in membership to nine and alternative language allowing for two alternative members. The Board of Commissioners is being asked to decide which they prefer prior to authorizing the ordinance and staff will adjust the code language in accordance with the decision by the Board.

V. Impact on Township Finances:

This ordinance will have no impact on Township finances.

VI. Staff Recommendation

Although staff does have concern with staffing a nine-member advisory board, staff is willing to defer to the recommendation of the EAC to increase to a nine-member advisory board.

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners authorize the advertisement of the ordinance as recommended by the EAC.