

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Public Works Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Ordinance to Vacate Bliss Street
Prepared by: Paul McElhaney, Director of Public Works
Date: September 3, 2025

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Authorize the Township Secretary to advertise a Notice of Intent to adopt an Ordinance to amend the Official Map of Streets of the Township of Lower Merion, adopted pursuant to the provisions of the Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 107, entitled Official Map, to vacate and abandon a certain right-of-way, being designated Bliss Street, formerly River Road, thirty-three (33) feet wide from Old Crawford Road easterly the distance of eight hundred sixty-six and 26 one-hundredths feet (866.26), more or less to its termination in the Township of Lower Merion.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

The Board of Commissioners must authorize advertisement of Notice of Intent to adopt an Ordinance prior to vacating a Township road.

III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable):

N/A

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

Bliss Street runs through both Conshohocken and Lower Merion Township. The section owned by and to be vacated by Lower Merion Township begins approximately just past the entrance to the parking garage at 226 Bliss Street and ends at a small cul-de-sac located in Gladwyne, as shown on the attached map.

This roadway has been brought to the Township's attention several times throughout the years mostly due to complaints of overgrowth and untidiness. Staff has determined that there is no benefit to the Township or use for this section of roadway.

If this right-of-way is vacated, the underlying land will revert to 2,3,4,5,6,9,10 and 14 Woodmont Road and will also revert to the Norfolk Southern Railroad since this land area is included on the deeds for these properties.

V. Impact on Township Finances:

This will have no impact on Township finances.

VI. Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Board of Commissioners authorize the ordinance to vacate this section of right-of-way.