

To: Sharon Township Mineral Licensing Board
From: Sharon Preservation Society
Date: December 20, 2021
RE: Aggregate Industries application to expand mining on M-52

COMMENTS RELATED TO TRAFFIC AND RECLAMATION– MLB MTG 20-DEC-2021

We believe there are several deficiencies in the proposal and application submitted by Meyers Materials, subsidiary of Aggregate Industries. These deficiencies potentially have a negative impact on the health, safety, and welfare of Sharon Township residents.

Traffic Safety

The applicant states that an average of 42 trucks per day, with a maximum of 50 trucks per day, will haul minerals from the site each year. This means that up to 100 trucks per day will be entering and exiting these sites. In a 10-hour day, that amounts to 10 trucks per hour.

The entrance to the sites is on a hill and curve, with limited sight distance, on a road with a speed limit of 55mph. (see attached photos of north and south bound views)

The applicant additionally states, “Lane widening of public roads is not proposed.” And, “Truck access and egress will remain status quo from the property’s currently licensed use.”

We believe this is an inherent traffic crash risk, and is particularly concerning because both Manchester and Chelsea public schools have routes that run along M-52, between Pleasant Lake and Grass Lake, and Grass Lake and I94, respectively. And, of course, this corridor is a primary route for Fire and EMS emergency vehicles.

We propose that an independent traffic safety study be commissioned - by an organization other than MDOT - to assess the impact on vehicle safety, and to verify there is no need for work for lane widening, or other measures for slow moving, heavy gravel trucks.

Also, if MDOT has not already been consulted on the impact of the pipeline that is proposed to run beneath M52, we believe it’s reasonable that is do so.

Reclamation

The reclamation plan seems to address the pits created by the extraction

We did not see any reference to the reclamation of the settling ponds. We believe this should be provided.

Northbound view of M-52 from mine entrance



Southbound view of M-52 from mine entrance

