

## Supervisors cool to PennDOT request

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The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation is asking the Amity Township supervisors to sign off on a system of handicap ramps and pads already installed throughout the township, but the supervisors feel they shouldn't have to.

Township Manager Charles E. Lyon told the board during Wednesday's meeting that signing off on the work, which the supervisors feel was shoddy and unnecessary, will result in their having to maintain the ramps.

"Nobody's going to use them," he said.

Lyon presented the board with a series of drawings indicating where the ramps and pads had been installed. The township, he said, is being asked by PennDOT to approve the work by signing the drawings and returning them.

"And then we maintain them in perpetuity," he said.

Lyon also said he fears PennDOT will start withholding funds for future needs if the drawings aren't signed and returned.

Lyon pointed out that, in the case of the ramps installed along Route 662 in the vicinity of St. Paul's Cemetery, insufficient turning radius there has already resulted in damage from truck traffic. He feels the wear and tear will only get worse.

Board member Terry Jones said it shouldn't fall on the township to maintain the ramps and pads.

"We don't maintain sidewalks. Those property owners should maintain those pads, not us," he said. "We maintain traffic signals because they force us to."

Lyon said he believes the work was paid for with stimulus dollars, and that the work was done quickly and inefficiently because there was a timeline tied to it.

"If they couldn't spend it before a certain time then it has to go back," he said.

The township, he said, is under no deadline from PennDOT to approve the work.

"We weren't part of the process but they want us to be responsible for it," board member Paul R. Weller said.

- By Kevin Duffy