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Planning commission OKs intermodal center

Nine conditions must be met before construction can begin on the project.

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The Scranton Planning Commission has approved a new station for COLTS and Martz bus lines in the city.

The commission gave final conditional approval Wednesday night to plans for a 22,500-square-foot Intermodal Transit Center on Lackawanna Avenue.

The bus station will be built on the south side of Lackawanna Avenue on the current site of the State Office Building parking lot, said Tania Reinaman, senior project engineer for Gannett Fleming of Harrisburg.

Earlier this month, COLTS representatives said they hoped to begin con-

struction this year.

The commission's full approval hinges on nine "minor" conditions developers must address before starting construction on the \$12.6 million project, said city engineer John Pocius.

"It's going to happen," Mr. Pocius said of the project. "They just need to give us proof they've addressed the conditions."

Among the conditions, the state Department of Transportation must approve a traffic signal plan before construction can begin. Mr. Pocius called this the "biggest issue," noting that traffic signals in the area need to be revised to accommodate COLTS bus traffic.

"They're in the process with PennDOT," he said.

City council must also approve a traffic signal resolution for the station project. Ms. Reinaman hoped to speak to council at its next meeting.

Developers will also schedule a meeting with volunteer city forester Tony Santoli to seek approval of trees for the property.

Mr. Pocius said Mr. Santoli can recommend which types of trees will survive in the city.

The final condition says the COLTS design team must remain involved in a construction coordination effort with the Scranton Sewer Authority's Long Term Control Plan project.

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