MARS BOROUGH

301 Arch Street, 1st floor, P.O. Box 395
Mars, PA 16046
www.marsborough.com

Dear Mars Borough resident:

There will be an important referendum question appearing on the November 3rd election ballot that will decide the future of Mars Borough.

This referendum question will ask voters of Mars Borough and Adams Township whether we should merge together into one single municipality to be renamed Mars Township. Mars Borough Council voted overwhelmingly in favor (6 votes to 1) to place this Merger proposal before our voters to determine Mars Borough's future. Similarly, Adams Township Supervisors voted unanimously (all Supervisors supported) to present this same Merger question to their residents.

In order for this Merger to occur the referendum question must be approved by a majority of voters in both municipalities. If this Merger vote fails in either municipality on November 3rd, this merger will not take place, and this measure cannot be re-voted upon for 5 years.

Today our municipalities share these services:

1) Mars school district
2) Fire & ambulance services (EMS)
3) Library
4) Post Office
5) Breakneck Sewer Authority (jointly owned 65% Adams/35% Mars)
6) 2 separate police departments back one another up in the event of emergencies

Both Mars & Adams operate with financially balanced annual budgets. Neither municipality has any outstanding debt. Both municipalities also have financial "rainy day" reserve funds. If this Merger is approved by voters, the official merger date will occur January 1, 2028. In the Merger contractual agreement between our two municipalities, all Mars Borough fulltime employees will be guaranteed fulltime positions with the new Mars Township at their current compensation, or possibly higher hourly rates. Adams Township jobs will also be protected; no jobs will be lost resulting from this Merger.

There will be considerable financial savings to both Mars Borough and Adams Township residents by eliminating unnecessary duplicate professional services (solicitors, auditors, engineers, insurance services, code enforcement, tax collectors, etc.). Residential mailing addresses will remain the same and your water service provider will not change.

Additionally, Mars residents will benefit from:

1) Newly constructed library in downtown Mars (begin construction 2028)
2) 24-hour police coverage 365 days of the year (today 16-hour coverage)
3) Local property taxes will be lowered from 25.33 down to 3.75 mils

We hope every resident will vote November 3rd on this important Merger referendum question, which has the potential to forever reshape Mars Borough's future.

The question that will appear on the ballot reads as follows:

"Shall the Borough of Mars, a Pennsylvania municipality organized under the Borough code, be merged into the Township of Adams, a Pennsylvania Township of the Second Class, and with the Township being renamed Mars Township, a Pennsylvania Township of the Second Class, effective January 1, 2028?"

If you wish to receive additional information or have questions regarding the Merger, please visit us on www.marsborough.com or www.adamstownship.org. Our office hours are from 8 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday (724-625-1858).

Please know, your vote makes a difference!

Kind regards,

Mike Fleming-President of Mars Council

Mayor Gregg Hartung