

TREDYFFRIN TOWNSHIP SIDEWALK SUBCOMMITTEE SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Submitted by Beth Brake, Phil Donahue, Jim Donegan, Michele Kichline, Trip Lukens, Sean Moir, E.J. Richter, Tory Snyder and Robert Whalen

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After 12 months of meeting, reviewing the maps of sidewalks, trails and bike lanes in the Tredyffrin Comprehensive and Open Space and Recreation Plans, publishing an on-line and paper survey (The Walking and Biking Survey), and holding a public meeting, the members of the Sidewalk Subcommittee offer the following **observations**. These observations are based on 1,000 responses received to the Walking and Biking Survey and on comments received at the public meeting. A tabulated summary of the Walking and Biking Survey and a complete list of comments from the public meeting are attached to this report.

1. A majority of respondents want to create additional opportunities for safe walking and biking in Tredyffrin Township.
2. A majority of respondents support the use of private (developer-funded) and public funds to create these additional opportunities.
3. A majority of respondents support the creation of walkways or sidewalks within their own neighborhoods and on their own properties.

Given these observations and the discussions held over the past 12 months, the Sidewalk Subcommittee unanimously makes the following **recommendations**:

1. The Township, based on ongoing input from the Sidewalk, Trails and Pathways (STAP) Committee, should adopt and periodically update a map or maps identifying a Green Routes Network. This Network will identify current Township priorities for sidewalks, asphalt pathways, on-road bike lanes, and off-road trails. The Subcommittee's current recommendation for this Green Routes Network is attached.
2. The Township should amend the current language in the Subdivision and Land Development Code to clarify when, where and how developers must contribute to the ongoing creation of walking opportunities in Tredyffrin Township. This language should include the following requirements:
 - a. Concrete sidewalks and/or asphalt pathways shall be provided under any of the following conditions:

- i. For properties with frontage on the Green Routes Network and with land that lies within a ½ mile radius of a K-12 school or within a ¼ mile radius of a library, train station, regional trail, park or shopping center; OR
 - ii. Where such provision will extend an existing sidewalk or walkway; OR
 - iii. For all non-residential development along a major arterial, minor arterial, major collector, or minor collector streets;
 - b. For all other subdivision and land development applications, the applicant has the option of choosing to construct the sidewalk/walkway (as determined by the Planning Commission under subsection c, below) or pay a fee in lieu of such construction. The fee to be paid shall be established by annual resolution of the Board of Supervisors. (Note: It is the recommendation of the members of the Sidewalk Subcommittee that this fee be established as a discounted percentage of the cost of constructing concrete sidewalks). These fees that are collected would then be used to fund pedestrian projects in the Township. The STAP Committee will provide priorities for such projects for the consideration of the Board of Supervisors.
 - c. The Planning Commission shall determine whether a concrete sidewalk or an asphalt path shall be provided based on existing feature of the land, potential usage of the sidewalk or path, and the general character of the area.
 - d. Applicants seeking a waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalks or pathways under Section a (above) may request permission to pay a fee in lieu, as permitted under Section b (above). The Planning Commission shall consider the length of frontage, character of adjacent properties and proximity to closest existing sidewalks when considering a waiver application.
3. For previously approved developments that have unfulfilled requirements to construct either a sidewalk or walkway, those applicants should be given the option to either complete their improvements as required under their previous approval OR be permitted to amend their application to comply with the new subdivision and land development requirement above. The Subcommittee also recommends that this option not be provided to projects with partially completed sidewalks or walkways.