

STAP Notes 5/22/07

Attendees: Sean, Sandi, Tim, Hans, Steve B., Jim D., Hilliary, Erin, EJ, Beth, Cindy, Cheryl, Bob O

I. Sidewalks

Consultant Team Meeting

Members of STAP met with the consultant team of Edwards and Kelsey, Cahill, and Bob Thomas on May 14. The consultants have reviewed STAP's concept plan and are so far agreeable to the recommended routing. The survey has been completed and the legal rights of way have been determined.

The consultants also discussed materials – concrete, asphalt – and want compatibility with surrounding community. They are looking at stormwater management and considering the need for curbs. They are also looking at traffic calming measures including bump-outs and “raised table” crosswalks (like Circuit City).

The next meeting with the consultants is 5/31 to discuss the upcoming residents meeting. STAP and the consultants are sticking to timetable for September SR2S application even though such funding is starting to look doubtful. The Preliminary design is due 6/15 along with a Preliminary cost estimate. A walkthrough of the Phase I sidewalk area was held after the meeting.

Resident Meeting / Resident Concerns

A public meeting is scheduled for 6/6 at TEMS, with 500 households invited. Resident have already expressed concerns about parking and will likely raise snow shoveling concerns at the public meeting. Beth volunteered her sons to help people who can't shovel for themselves. It was noted that many of the outfits that plow driveways do not do walks.

School Board Update

Sean presented an update to the School Board on May 11 regarding the Sidewalks to Schools project. The School Board would like '08 construction to occur in summer when school is out. They would also like to deal with corner of Cassatt and Old Lancaster (architect's office), but may defer this until Phase II. Steve needs to follow up on the potential \$10K contribution for Phase I design work.

The School Board is interested in hearing about the cost estimates as soon as they are available.

Parking

Since some of the area of Phase I (close to the Middle School) coincides with permit parking, STAP will need to coordinate with Tony Giamo about any possible changes to parking configurations. Permits are granted by Twp ordinance, so this may require ordinance changes. In particular the corner of Conestoga at Irish has 2 permit parking spaces. No good location for sidewalk there without affecting parking.

Funding

Hans reported that SR2S funding process is being held up by Harrisburg due to statewide uncertainty over transportation funding. The application is not available, and will not be available until the funds are committed. Hans has other meetings that will be discussing this and he will provide updates as he receives them. He estimated a 25% chance of getting SR2S money even if that program does survive.

It will be important to identify alternate sources of funding Phase I construction. It was suggested the Molly and EJ work on this with the Policy and Funding group.

We are still waiting for DCED grant results on May 31. Applied for \$100K to fund Phase I construction. Received \$100K from TCDI grant for Phase II design and engineering.

Other Sidewalk Discussions

Twp can extend the contract for Phase I design to include Phase II – can retain EdwardsKelsey/Cahill/Thomas if we are happy with their work. Construction for each phase still requires separate RFPs.

The EAC would like to be informed of any plans for tree removal, and any stormwater management plans.

II. Trails

CVT

New engineering firm - Arora and Associates has been chosen. They also have the contract to finish the Montco section of the CVT - essentially dealing with this as one project.

Bridges over Valley Forge and North Valley roads will be Pratt trusses with a Cor-Ten finish, consistent with the railroad heritage.

A public meeting will be held in Tredyffrin - June 7. County will send postcards to residents living near trail. Preliminary design ready Oct. '07. Need to work this into the Tredyffrin budget cycle. Construction starts Oct '09 for completion in 2010. Entire trail, not just Tredyffrin.

Total funding is uncertain. There is the possibility that there will not be enough money to fund the entire project in a single phase. Bob mentioned the possibility of private fund-raising efforts.

The township will need to address connections and drainage to LAD park and work with PECO to provide access to their equipment..

Crossing at Cedar Hollow Rd complicated by several factors.

Crabby Creek Trail Bridges

Plan to seek funding for replacement bridges in '08 budget. Design needs to consider flood stage. Tim suggested that we look at wooden bridges in McKaig Nature Center (Upper Merion park) as examples. Paoli Troop 1 boy scout participation noted on sign at park entrance.

Patriots Path / Chesterbrook Blvd Bike Lanes

Summer planning for fall implementation, after Tredyffrin 300 events. Still waiting for Jake Michael to update us about who will lead the Patriots Path project.

Future Bike Routes

Trail subcommittee members proposed a number of bike routes to be included in the 2021 plan. These routes are designed to provide East/West and North/South bikeability as well as to provide access to the Chester Valley Trail.

These bike routes will need to be added to STAP GIS maps for consideration as PennDOT makes improvements. They have incentives to improve pedestrian and bike safety.

The bike routes should also be included in the Comprehensive Plan.

Next meeting: July 17, 3:00