

RPC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

May 16, 2016

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Ira Weiss (Chair); Kent Huston (Vice Chair); Holly Mattei (RPC Executive Director); Peggy Portier (SRTS); Loudan Klein (RPC); Rick Szabrak (Economic Development); Jeremiah Upp (Count Engineer); Jonathan Ferbrache (SWCD); James Mako (RPC); Michael Kaper (Land Bank); James Bahnsen (County Treasurer); Greg Eyeran (FCVCB); Ann Probasco (FACFC)

1. Approval of April 18, 2016 meeting notes

Peggy Portier made a motion to approve. Kent Huston seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Chairman's Report

Mr. Weiss began his report by discussing his comments to MORPC regarding the Metropolitan Transportation Plan. He pointed out the various projects in Fairfield County that have been incorporated which include: Refugee Road, Tussing Road, Hill Road north and south, Long Road, Columbus Street, Busey Road, Milnor Road, and a connector between I-70 and US 33.

Ms. Mattei added we should make sure some entity has these projects incorporated in their plans so that someone is available to apply for funding.

3. Partnerships with the Land Bank for future bikeways

Ms. Mattei briefed the committee on potential partnerships with the Fairfield County Land Bank and discussed the opportunity to incorporate active transportation facilities on some of the parcels they acquire.

She focused on 3 parcels located within the City of Lancaster that the Land Bank is looking to acquire for potentially extending the city bike path.

Michael Kaper pointed out that in the future if an agency or city is interested in this opportunity, to identify them ahead of time to put the property in their name as the Land Bank works through the process.

Ms. Mattei suggested the City of Lancaster would be best suited to take over the 3 parcels in question and also suggested setting up a meeting between the Land Bank and the Lancaster Parks.

Ms. Mattei then posed the question, how does this committee move forward with the Land Bank?

James Bahnsen suggested we continue to look out for potential use of active transportation facilities when we first are assessing property.

Mr. Kaper pointed out that there is always a potential for an owner to come forward and pay the balance of taxes when they start to look at a property, which at that point the Land Bank can no longer acquire the property.

4. Discussion on the Norfolk Southern line and rails-to-trails opportunities

Ms. Mattei briefed the committee on the Norfolk-Southern line that was discussed at the May RPC meeting as a rail-to-trail opportunity. She added there has been new information that the line may just be idle and not completely abandoned.

Jonathan Ferbrache added the line is still utilizing some small loads.

Rick Szabrak added he has been in contact with Norfolk-Southern and they will know more in 3-4 months.

5. Proposed Developments- Wymer Property sketch plan

Loudan Klein presented to the committee the Wymer Property Sketch Plan. In terms of active transportation, he highlighted within the plan the proposed MUP along the south side of the development and along Milnor Road. He added there are no proposed sidewalks on the north side of the development.

General discussion followed, and it was suggested that the ATC recommend sidewalks be constructed on the north side of the development, and the MUP along Milnor Road be extended north as well.

Ms. Portier made a motion to approve recommendation. Greg Eyerman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Other Business

Ms. Mattei presented to the committee the active transportation facilities incorporated in the NRP grant for Fairfield Beach as part of the CDBG program. Specifically the path along Lake Shore Drive and the walking trail around the local park.

Mr. Klein discussed with the committee public input he had received regarding a path within the Violet Meadows subdivision. The interest stemmed from the recently submitted preliminary plan.

General discussion followed about the potential path, and Ms. Mattei added that subdivision regulations do not have the authority to require the path within the subdivision and particularly one that is not adjacent to a school.

Ms. Mattei made a recommendation of encouragement to the developer to incorporate a trail through the open space of the Violet Meadows Section 5 and 6 preliminary plan.

Mr. Huston made a motion to approve the recommendation. Ms. Portier seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Weiss names next meeting June 20th.

Jeremiah Upp made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Portier seconded the motion. Motion carried.