

RPC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

January 12, 2015

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Kent Huston (Vice Chair); Scott Tourville (City of Pickerington Engineer); Greg Butcher (Violet Township Engineer); Holly Mattei (RPC Executive Director); Greg Eyerman (Fairfield County VCB); Peggy Portier (SRTS); Eric McCrady (FCEO); Jim Barrett (FHTA); Carrie Woody (LPTS); Ann Probasco (Family, Adult and Children First); James Mako (RPC Staff); Greg Bachman (Pickerington resident)

1. Approval of the December 15, 2014 meeting notes.

Peggy Portier motion to approve. Greg Butcher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Chairman's Report

Kent Houston shared with the committee that Mr. Weiss is sick and that is why he was unable to attend.

3. Update on Refugee Road Sidewalk and MUP

Holly Mattei introduced everyone to the idea of having Ohio State engineering students develop a plan for the project in detail. She added that the students are not professional engineers and would be unable to stamp the project, but could still provide valuable insight.

Ms. Mattei updated the committee on the Refugee Road Attributable funds project, and that all signs still point to the Pickerington project getting funded.

4. Update on State Bikeway Map

Ms. Mattei discussed recent communication she had with the state regarding the bikeway maps. The state she added, replied by saying they will begin the implementation stage of the maps themselves shortly, and that they will be in contact if they need more clarification.

5. Update on Revisions to Sidewalk Width in Subdivision Regulations

Ms. Mattei detailed the current status and issues face by the revisions, specifically dealing with the location and maintenance of the waterlines. She introduced the topic of

moving waterlines outside the ROW in an easement but with communication between Utilities it is unclear of their preference at the time. She added that RPC has scheduled a meeting with developers to discuss their ideas and opinions.

Peggy Portier asked if we can have the developers move the street trees on the house-side of the sidewalk?

Ms. Mattei answered that in that instance you still run into issues with other utilities.

Kent Huston also added that creating an easement outside the ROW begins to encroach on individual's lot and building lines.

Loudan Klein presented what Licking County and Delaware County have done to combat this issue. He first discussed Delaware, in that they use a private company Delco who creates a 5 foot easement outside the ROW and 2 feet off the sidewalk places their waterlines. As for Licking County he added, they have just changed their regulations and haven't dealt with the issue first hand.

Scott Tourville discussed previous experience in the City of Westerville. He reviewed how they placed waterlines beneath the street and would do an entire street overall at once.

Eric McCrady added that he personally feels it would be much easier and less expensive to replace sidewalk when a waterline breaks than to have to dig up the street and repair asphalt.

Mr. McCrady proposed that idea of taking 6 inches of pavement off each lane to allow another foot for the waterline. Which he added would also be less total pavement for the developer to produce.

Ms. Portier encouraged that the green space between curb and sidewalk still be wide enough that tree roots do not encroach on the sidewalk.

Mr. Tourville entertained the idea to include a species list of trees that the county would allow within a subdivision.

6. Other Business

Ms. Portier notified the committee of the passing of Columbus Engineer Bill Lewis.

Ms. Portier brought up the issue of the bike lanes along State Rt 22 East being used as turn lanes. She contacted ODOT to see if more emblems can be painted to better notify drivers.

Mr. McCrady asked what the law is with regards to bicycle reflectivity.

Ms. Portier answered that they require bicyclists to have headlights and a reflector on the back.

Mr. McCrady noted that many individuals travel to Rockmill Park early in the morning to work, and travel home either on a bike or walking. He added that some travel to Walmart and get a ride from there.

Carrie Woody, Director of Lancaster Public Transit, said she will look into the possibility of getting a route in place for those employees.

Ann Probasco presented to the committee a grant opportunity through the Ohio Department of Health Child Injury program. She mentioned some suggestions regarding bike helmets and racks at local schools.

Mr. Huston states that the next meeting is February 9, 2015.