

RPC ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE

July 20, 2015

MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Ira Weiss (Chair); Holly Mattei (RPC Executive Director); Bob Clark (Economic Development); Greg Butcher (Violet Township); Greg Bachman (Violet Township Resident); Conner Downard (Violet Township); Scott Tourville (City of Pickerington)

1. Approval of the June 15, 2015 meeting notes.

Bob Clark made motion to approve. Greg Butcher seconded the motion. Scott Tourville abstained. Motion carried.

2. Chairman's Report

Ira Weiss discussed intercommunity connections. There were questions of how Lithopolis connected with Canal and Groveport. Especially since there is the park in Groveport and the Blacklick Trail, it would be nice to put in loops to connect the trails and communities.

3. Discussion of Proposed Developments

The first development under discussion was Meadowmoore Section 2.2 and 4 Final Plats. Ms. Mattei said that they looked at the plans last year and the construction drawings were previously submitted. The subdivision is under construction and sidewalks will be installed on both sides of the road. Ms. Mattei said that last time Brian Bosch brought to their attention that there are no plans for ODOT to put a sidewalk in along 204. At the time, ATC said that they could visualize a sidewalk going in by others. Ms. Mattei said that the sidewalks would not be going along 204 but would go up to that intersection. The intersection is a right-in right-out type of intersection onto 204.

Section 4 of Meadowmoore is a little further east and Ms. Mattei indicated the section on the map. She also said that sidewalks would be put in on both sides of the road. Ms. Mattei did want to bring to everyone's attention Meadowmoore East and the sketch plan that was submitted. A preliminary plan is expected within the next few months. The plan was slightly revised since the last time the Committee saw it and so Ms. Mattei wanted to bring to their attention some of the revisions. One revision is the roundabout which is in response to the concerns about cut through traffic. They also made some changes to the open spaces and are going to add a multi-use path that would bring people to Ault Road.

A park is also being considered in part of the open space. There are also wetlands near the end of one of the roads and a parking lot is being considered for the end of the road. An educational area on the wetlands is also being considered.

Mr. Tourville asked if there actually was a roundabout or if it was just a traffic circle. Ms. Mattei said that it is actually going to be a roundabout that is being modeled after the one at Lithopolis and Gender Roads.

The second subdivision being discussed was Spring Creek Preliminary Plan Extension Request. Ms. Mattei said that the preliminary plan was approved 15 years ago. Some concerns were voiced about the cut through traffic from Refugee Road to Pickerington Road. Ms. Mattei said that the RPC recommended that they change that portion of Spring Creek Drive and so two concepts were presented. Concept A works best for long range plans for development to the east but there is some concern about turn lanes and the required right of way. Due to those concerns Concept B was thought to be best at this time and as the east develops the concept can be adjusted.

Along the back of Section 2.2 there were supposed to be bike paths but the developer removed it from the plans. There were no plans for expansion in either direction and it was taking up a lot of lot space so the removal of the bike path was justifiable. With the elimination of the path there is no other multi use path in the subdivision. The ATC felt that there was no need for a path because of the regional MUP's now included in the long range plan.

Mr. Bachman said that he felt Concept A was better. Ms. Mattei said Concept A is better but since it cannot support turns lanes then she cannot support it. Mr. Tourville said the issue may resurface and that many of lots have been sold in the section 2.2.. The developer is considering adding a road that will connect with Pickerington Road. Ms. Mattei asked if the concepts were brought to their attention and Mr. Tourville said he was not sure.

The final development under review was Lake Forest. Mr. Tourville said the development was directly west of Pickerington North. There will be 150 single-family lots in the subdivision and 40,000 square feet of professional office. Mr. Tourville indicated where everything would be on the map he brought. The right of way along Refugee is county but the property is city so the county has not been kept in the loop so much. The county is conducting the traffic study for them though.

There was some discussion about doubling the width of the sidewalks to make a multi-use path. Mr. Tourville said that would be possible so long as it was in the existing right of way. Ms. Mattei asked what the proper procedure for doing something like that. She wondered if a recommendation would be needed from the ATC and then forwarded on during the review process. Mr. Tourville said that the plans had already been through the

planning commission. He said that he would be able to accept comments from the ATC, Regional Planning Office or the County Engineer's Office.

Mr. Tourville asked for clarification on the trail: whether it would be asphalt, done with phase 1 or done some time in the future. Mr. Bachman responded that it would probably be done with phase 1 and would have to be 10 feet wide. The materials used would be up to the developer. Since the sidewalk is existing the path would be put in next to it. Mr. Bachman made a motion to recommend a MUP be added along Refugee Road for the Lake Forest Development as noted in the conversation. Greg Butcher seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Butcher asked about the traffic study in the area and Mr. Tourville said he would be reviewing it but the bulk of the study is the intersection and how to improve the corridor. Improvements could be made at Spring Creek, Refugee and Milnor Roads. One issue the study has brought up is that one or both left turns would be taken out but that will not happen until the proposed offices are developed.

4. MORPC's Central Ohio Greenways and Trails Forum

Several initiatives were discussed including one where, next year, 300 people from Cleveland to Columbus would travel via bike trail to determine where trails should be and maintenance needed on others.

Mr. Weiss said that the year after next they would travel them from Columbus to Cincinnati.

Mr. Bachman commented that it would be nice to reroute those people through Fairfield County and Mr. Weiss stated that they do it for Paletonia.

Mr. Bachman also announced the completion of the trail near Alum Creek from Three Creeks up to Westerville. This will tie into the Blacklick Trail. Mr. Weiss said that a portion of the trail just south of Easton was supposed to open that weekend.

At the MORPC meeting there was also discussion about the Economic Development Impact on Trails Study. There will be a press conference Wednesday, July 22 to address the study. Mr. Weiss also commented that questionnaires were given to people and that a major concern of the people was that there was a lack of connectedness between communities. New Albany to Westerville was mentioned due to the trails they have.

5. Continued Discussion on MORPC's MTP Interactive Map.

Mr. Weiss asked if anyone had been on it and added things. Mr. Bachman said he had trouble adding things on his home computer. Mr. Weiss said that he emailed MORPC to let them know that some things were missing from the map. Ms. Mattei said that multi

use path on the north side and the sidewalk on the south side of Refugee Road has been added.

Mr. Weiss commented that on Tussing Road a multi-use path and a sidewalk should be added to connect the shopping centers. At a recent meeting that Ms. Mattei attended a Columbus City planner presented a plan for the Brice Road/ Tussing Road area. She feels that they might be interested in that.

6. Other Business

Mr. Tourville said that the school awards came out and they received funds. The funds are expected for fiscal year 18/19.

Mr. Weiss names next meeting Monday, August 17th. Greg Butcher made motion to adjourn. Scott Tourville seconded the motion. Motion carried.