

Complete Streets Committee – Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m. in the Town Board Conference Room

Committee Attendees:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Joe Emminger	Town Supervisor
Jim Cuozzo	NYSDOT
Lt. Nicholas Bado	Town Police Department
Jim Hartz	Town Planning and Development
Tom Jones	Town Highway Department
Bill Swanson	Town Highway Department
David Stinner	Resident/Owner – USitek
Angie Robinson	National Federation of the Blind-NY

Guests:

Bob Vorburger, Michael Longley

1. Public Information Meeting – Public Survey Results –

Jim Hartz presented the preliminary public survey results. There were 535 respondents so far. The preliminary results show that 4 out of 5 people support more pedestrian-friendly improvements around Town. The results should provide a basis for advancing the draft Complete Streets Policy to the Planning Board for review at the next meeting. All of the Committee members should look at the policy one more time and suggest any adjustments they feel necessary.

The public information meeting on May 24th was well attended and participants only reported positive feedback on the complete streets initiative. We also launched the public survey that night that runs through the end of July. The Planning and Development Office will do one more outreach effort to gather additional respondents.

David Stinner thought that the little variation in the prioritization of streets indicated that people would like to see improvements all over Town. Nick Bado said that it appears that anywhere there are commercial businesses seemed to score the highest in the survey.

Jim Hartz mentioned that he would prepare the baseline performance measures in the Complete Streets Policy before the next committee meeting.

David Stinner asked what it takes to lower the speed limit on some residential streets. Nick Bado said that the State of New York sets the limit in State Law. There are a number of things that traffic designers can do to regulate traffic speeds.

Jim Hartz mentioned that a resident of Ellicott Creek Road showed a potential new path location along Raintree Island that could link up through Paradise Lane into Ellicott Creek Park. Bill Swanson said that the land is currently owned by National Grid.

Another resident that lives on Colvin Boulevard was wondering why the crosswalk that used to exist at Brompton Road was removed during the resurfacing of Colvin. Bill Swanson said that the previous crosswalk was not a legal crossing. It does not meet the Erie County criteria for a legal crosswalk.

2. Current and Proposed Projects:

Angie Robinson mentioned that there are deficient crosswalks all over the Town and Village. Jim Hartz mentioned that the Town is preparing a GIS data layer to track sidewalk locations and gaps in service to address problem areas in the Capital Improvement Budget. Bill Swanson said that the Highway Department maintains a list of deficient sidewalk areas where tree roots have caused heaving. A replacement project is scheduled to begin next year. Bill mentioned that they are one of the only municipalities in WNY who still replace sidewalk blocks.

The Rails to Trails project is almost complete. The HAWK signal seems to be working as planned and the Rapid Flashing Beacons at Brighton, Colvin, and Englewood are being installed this week. A grand opening event is being scheduled for August 11th.

The Kenmore Avenue HAWK is currently bagged and awaiting activation. It should be operational with a couple of weeks. The intersection at Englewood is almost complete and should be opened in both directions by the end of August. Dedicated bike lanes will be striped along both sides of the street. David Stinner asked when the rest of the street will be completed through Military Road. Jim Hartz said that a request had been made to the GBNRTC for inclusion in the regional TIP.

The intersection of Parker Blvd. and Englewood Avenue was briefly discussed regarding appropriate signage.

The pedestrian bridge at Sheridan Drive at Hoover School may need a structural evaluation. There will also be more students attending the remaining schools that are open.

3. Rails to Trails Special Event:

Jim Hartz mentioned that there was some interest expressed about promoting the newly installed Rails to Trails at an event in the late Summer or early Fall. He will contact YPR to see if they have any interest in coordinating an event.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on August 23rd at 10:00 a.m.