

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

December 7, 2022 Meeting Summary (DRAFT TO BE APPROVED)

Public Comment Period

No public comments

Department Updates

Traffic Pedestrian Safety Committee- Skip described the internal committee for new members. Discussed the Wemple Road comment to be a January agenda item.

Police Department- No representative in attendance for an update.

Highway Department

- Not much of an update. 2022 Town sidewalks done, waiting for [cost] numbers to come in.
- Kristin asked about the status of see me flags in Glenmont. Highway was waiting for them to come in.
- Discussion of a long-range capital plan for sidewalks. Big items take a long time, getting ROW for new sidewalks, funding, can take 5-10 years sometimes. Replacing asphalt with concrete and widening can require permits, engineered drawings, etc.
- Capital Plan – done in public works, used project management tool to track project steps. Budget time and project resources, months to do x, y, and z. Go for grant funding.
- DPW has a funding source, Highway Dept. doesn't apart from General Fund sidewalk allocation and Planning grants/project contributions
- Highway Dept. issue is money. Comment about ARPA funds.
- DPW did bonding for equipment, then added on other stuff. Sidewalks could get added to other funding requests. Get money out of the equation and establish a big pot of money up front.
- Feura Bush sidewalk just got last remaining easement. Money has been sitting there, but now it's not enough due to inflation.
- Should use project management software – have to get past looking at just the next year each year.
- Town Departments get together and figure out the long-term. Not just 2023, but 2023-2027
- Town needs assistance from the committee in addressing the Town Supervisor and Planning Director's suggestions that we clarify the criteria used to select maintenance projects and communicate these more effectively with residents.

- Pictures of existing condition sidewalk could be added to sidewalks webpage to help communicate condition of priority sidewalks
- New and maintenance sidewalk lists – separate lists and separate pots of money, timelines are also different
- Discussed Blessing Road as a new project
- When do we start on new sidewalk projects?
- People are walking in the roads because the existing sidewalks are not safe.
- We need to clarify the decision making / prioritization and lay it out in plain language so public understands
- Discussion of blacktop over existing sidewalks – rough spot on Delaware.
- Request for Nate to get an update on Delaware Avenue Complete Streets grant funding – don't want money to go away. Can these sidewalks be done?
- Discussion of balance between maintenance and new sidewalks. Hard to defend an argument that we are remediating ADA access issues when there is spending on new sidewalks.
- We want to be able to point to a capital plan and defend our decisions
- Discussed long-term capital plan and the Comptroller's stance on bonding for recurring costs. How can the Town develop a capital reserve fund for sidewalks. Bonding allows a bigger pot than what an annual budget could ever support.
- Skip will prepare a 2 page outline/intro for circulation. Nate suggested we could pull from Skip's write-up to update the webpage.
- State and town color coded lists could be in there. Could show top 4 or 5 new sidewalks to communicate them

Planning Department

Discussed topics in previous Highway update.

Subcommittee Updates

Sidewalk Maintenance- discussed already

Public Safety Campaign- Request to Committee members to share any ideas about messaging/branding/etc. regarding education campaign. Suggestions included inclusivity, universal message, highlight message of thinking about safety needs of neighbors. Nate will pass onto Civic Eye.

Speed Bumps- no updates/discussion

Items for Committee Support

Crosswalk counts – Town still needs assistance. Jennifer can talk to residents in that Area. Nate will follow up with data needs. Suggestion that CDTA could help with busy times for busses.

Adjourned – Unknown time