



MEETING NOTES

Project:	Middletown Multimodal Improvement Plan Study	Project No.:	22059.10
Location:	Middletown Township Municipal Building	Meeting Date/Time:	05.30.2023 6:00-8:00 pm
Re:	Public Meeting #2	Issue Date:	06.21.2023

ATTENDANCE:

See attached attendance list.

DELIVERABLES:

- Public Meeting #2 Presentation
- Public Meeting #2 Meeting Notes

GENERAL NOTES:

Presentation:

William Collins (WC) introduced the project and team. Anita Nardone (AN) continued the presentation with data and inventory information. Bryce Brucker (BB) explained the site reconnaissance and site analysis. Geoff Creary (GC) gave a description of the 'toolbox' and initial concepts. (WC) Concluded the presentation with schedule and next steps.

Discussion:

1. Sidewalks/ Parked Cars/ Jaywalking
 - Participant commented on pedestrian safety in residential neighborhood where drivers frequently park on sidewalks blocking access and blocking curb cuts at the corners. He was also concerned about jaywalking—which requires defensive driving skills by motorists.
 - GC responded that jaywalking is illegal. Unfortunately, no physical design can lead to police enforcement, however we can create safety measures that aim to limit this.
2. Pedestrian and Driver Education
 - Participant commented on the need for education about multimodal safety.

- Nick Valla (NV) added that the facilities aren't always intuitive, which lead to incorrect use. Mentioned that Middletown is an old township and has improvements that are out of date and current 'tools' of multimodal safety need to be understood.
 - NV explained that more detailed design of certain elements would come from Township engineers, which aim to limit things like jaywalking.
 - AN explained that safety measures could be as simple as video clips online. Safety education would be part of our recommendations in the final report with examples from other municipalities.
3. Sidewalk Gaps / Obeying Traffic Conventions/ Need for Signage
- Member of Planning Commission noted that the Twp. in the past frequently waived the requirement for sidewalks---and is now playing 'catch up'. No more waiving sidewalks!
 - He is concerned about sidewalk gaps.
 - Agrees with need for refresher on basic traffic conventions of riding with traffic and walking against traffic for maximum safety. People do not obey this at Core Creek Park.
 - GC mentioned that we are looking at a better network for the park itself.
4. Better Signage & Traffic Markings
- Participant suggested better signage for crosswalks, to notify vehicular traffic to yield to pedestrians.
 - GC went back to safety, and how yielding to pedestrians and giving cyclists 4 feet of clearance is generally new law. New signage conventions help educate.
5. Timeline for Implementation of Improvements
- Participant questioned the process of implementation of the project. How would this work? Is this one project at a time?
 - GC explained that the answers depend on grant funding. If certain grants call for multi-use trails, the implementation of the improvement plan shifts to accommodate what grants will fund. (No cost to taxpayers.)
 - NV added input about the federally infrastructure bill and how it relates to the implementation of specific projects from the plan. The timing of this plan works in harmony with these opportunities.
 - WC added that the toolbox improvements will have cost estimates. The Township can 'plan' which areas should be priorities and where the possible funding can come from.
6. PennDOT RC3 Project / Kingville Road
- Participant brought up PennDOT's projects on Route 1 and how it may affect traffic plans
 - GC explained that we are requesting the current plans. We will work with what is planned in the RC3 corridor.
 - Same participant mentioned Kingville Road, shallow shoulders.
 - GC noted that making recommendations on highway improvements was out of project scope.
 - NV explained that Township is waiting for Phase 3 of plans from PennDOT which will have its own discussion. NV explained that access roads to Route 1 being reused as multi use trail may be part of the plan and would be something the Township would support.

7. Newtown Rail Trail/ George School Connection?

- Participant was curious if Newtown Rail on the backside of George school could be used as a rail trail.
 - GC explained that George School oversees that amenity, and we plan to talk to them.

8. Brownsville Road Area/ Neshaminy High School

- A member of audience was curious if anything was slated for Brownsville Road. People use that bridge to walk and fish; planned bridge work does not include enough room for a sidewalk.
 - GC mentioned we will look at this. He also went into detail about the age of roads; narrow rights-of-way exist for older routes. Difficult to add onto bridges due to ROW.
- Could there be sidewalks added to Neshaminy High School. Can we connect to residential areas around this location on Creek Road? Look at locations around Feasterville.
- Another participant noted she lives between Brownsville and Maple Avenue said there are no sidewalks in her neighborhood. There are adjacent parks, however there is no way to get to them. (Simmons Park.)
- An online participant echoed the remarks about Brownsville Road.

9. Old Lincoln Highway/ Hulmeville Road-Pennel Borough

- Participant mentioned Hulmeville Road and Lincoln Highway, Pennel Borough, is a dangerous intersection.

NOTE: Paul Kopera (Dir, Parks & Recreation) shared photos of Jones Park, North Clearview Avenue Dead end. Noted a needed connection between parks.

Next Meeting: Public Meeting #3 on September 28, 2023 – 6pm

This report represents the Professional's summation of the proceedings and is not a transcript. Unless written notice of any correction or clarification is received by the Professional within ten days of issue, the report shall be considered factually correct and shall become part of the official project record.

Sincerely,

SIMONE COLLINS, INC.
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE



Bryce Brucker