

RT 109 Design Committee
Meeting Minutes September 24, 2014

Medway Sr. Center, 7:00 pm

Members Present: Dennis Crowley, Chair
Matt Buckley
Maryjane White
Paul Yorkis

Other Attendees: Mike Boynton, Town Administrator
Matt Hayes, Planning & Economic Development Board
Dave D'Amico, Medway DPS
Geoff Howie, GPI

1. Minutes from August 6, 2014 were approved.
2. The Committee was aware that the development plans for Tri-Valley Commons (TVC) located west of Charles River Bank have been withdrawn by the developer. Mr. D'Amico recommended that the Committee conclude its recommended road layout in this area with the expectation that a new development will follow. Mr. D'Amico also informed the Committee he was contacted by Mr. Lester Gould of Gould's Plaza to express displeasure with the current 75% design plan. He feels that his plaza has limited access as no left turn lane is provided for east bound traffic at his location.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that some modification to the 75% plan in the area is needed. The Hawk pedestrian crossing as proposed by TVC should be included for all scenarios based on pedestrian crossing at Papa Gino's and Dunkin Donuts. With that, two possible scenarios emerged as practical; 1) provide a 2 Way Left Turn Lane as proposed by TVC (similar to the existing road layout) or; 2) break the long west bound left turn lane as provided in the 75% plan into three segments. The middle segment would allow for a left turn lane for east bound traffic into Gould's and the former TVC.

Some concerns were raised which GPI will need to review for the next meeting:

- 1. Does enough ROW exist to allow for construction of the 2WCTL?**
 - 2. Is it possible to properly design the three segment left turn lane alternative?**
 - 3. Are other overhead signs required to mark out the 2WCTL? There is concern that these overhead signs and the Hawk signal will produce too much clutter and confusion.**
3. Mr. D'Amico reported on a meeting held with Ms. Shirley Shiver of MassDOT ROW Division. Ms. Shiver outlined new requirements for the ROW process that will take some added time and funding. Most deal with the appraisal process. Also, Town Counsel has provided additional information. There is some conflict between State and Federal regulations that need to be addressed concerning property owner's notification. The Committee has been proceeding along the course outlined by Ms. Shiver representing the Federal requirements. **Mr. Crowley recommended a meeting with Ms. Shiver and Town Counsel to review the process and detail**

the steps needed to keep the project on schedule. Mr. D'Amico will arrange this prior to the next meeting.

4. The Committee reviewed additional funds needed for the design, ROW, and construction to continue. The current design budget is a \$700,000 MassDOT grant. ROW has been funded for \$100,000 using Chapter 90 State Aid Road funds. No additional funding has been appropriated at this time. Total construction cost is presently estimated at \$12.2 million. Additional funding required includes:
 - \$100,000 to \$150,000 for additional engineering services. GPI has notified the Town of cost overruns and needs to provide details as soon as possible.
 - Additional appraisal/title work is expected to cost about \$10,000.
 - ROW acquisition costs of \$315,000 which needs to be available at the time of eminent domain taking. Property owners may elect to donate the takings and take a tax deduction. This will lower the final cost.
 - Unknown amount associated non-participatory items. These are design elements such as ornamental street lighting, stone walls, etc. that the State may decline to approve. In these cases, the Town will be required to fund these items through other available means if desired. These items and costs will be identified over the next month or two.

The Board of Selectmen will discuss cost and funding options with the Town Administrator at a coming meeting.

5. Mr. D'Amico and Mr. Howie gave a brief overview of the status of the street light design. The design may be complicated by the addition of banners and flags. This may be driving the size of the base which is now set at 18 inches. The Committee wishes to maintain the banner and flag layout as currently configured on all poles. **GPI will continue to get more information and plan on a design exception report to MassDOT requesting a reduction in the minimum distance from base to curb of 18 inches down to 12 inches.**
6. Mr. Howie reviewed project schedule with the Committee. Mr. Crowley would like a revised simplified chart for the Committee's use. The project remains on schedule for a January, 2015 100% design submission. Currently awaiting comments from MassDOT for environmental and cultural issues. These are needed to allow the ROW process to proceed.

Mr. Howie will provide a revised schedule for the next meeting.

7. In other business, the status of the Choate Park entrance was discussed. **GPI needs to provide a final layout.** No decision on signage has been made yet. Also, Mr. Howie will need to follow-up with Mr. Diaz of GPI on the status of the parking lot configuration at Medway Shopping Center. The desire is for a signed commitment from the Center's owners based on an agreed upon plan before the 100% Design submission.

Next meeting planned for October 22, 2014. Location and time to be determined.

Adjourn at 8:50 pm.