

**TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH  
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2010  
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS  
7:00 p.m.**

**A Town Council Workshop of the Old Orchard Beach Town Council was held on Thursday, May 27, 2010. Chair MacDonald opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss (1) E. Emerson Cummings Blvd—“Safe Routes to School”—Phase II; and 2) E. Emerson Cummings Blvd/Saco Avenue intersection.**

**The following were in attendance:**

**Chair Sharri MacDonald  
Vice Chair Michael Tousignant  
Councilor Robin Dayton  
Town Manager Jack Turcotte  
Assistant Town Manager Louise Reid  
Public Works Director Bill Robertson**

**Absent:                   Councilor Laura Bolduc  
                              Councilor Shawn O’Neill**

**Mr. Ryan Wingard, P.E., Wright Pierce, presented the following power point demonstration of the E. Emerson Cummings Sidewalk Improvement Plan – Phase II. Bill Robertson pointed out first that this was not a PACTS project but rather a Department of Transportation project. The Town Manager indicated that he had met with the School and that any changes that were made were done so with their suggestion or that of the Town. Councilor Dayton reiterated that that Council had not been informed of the second part of this project. The proposal is to continue a sidewalk improvement project on E. Emerson Cummings Boulevard. Phase I work, which was completed last year included a 1,500 foot walkway along E. Emerson Cummings Boulevard as well as new curbing along the street, fencing along the football field and some landscaping. This project was part of a Safe Routes to School project through the Maine Department of Transportation. The second phase as explained by Mr. Wingard is expected to cost approximately \$180,000. The Maine Department of Transportation would pay for \$144,000 and the Town would pay the rest through in-kind services.**

**Mr. Wingard also noted that \$30,000 of this would be in-kind work by the Town’s Public Works Department. He summarized the Phase I Work - which included:**

**1,500 feet of shared use path  
New curbing along EEC  
New fencing along football field  
Nine ADA detectable warning devices  
Limited landscaping  
Grading, loam and seed**

**He showed maps of the various locations and operations. He then presented a Summary of Phase II – Site 1 which is the Loranger Middle School. This included:**

**2 raised cross walks**  
**Limited landscaping**  
**New Sidewalk and Planting Buffer**  
**New curbing**  
**Grading, loam, and seed**

**The Summary of Phase II – Site 2 included a map showing the Old Orchard Beach High School Entrance. This included:**

**2 raised cross walks**  
**Limited landscaping**  
**New Sidewalk**  
**Additional Parking (need MDOT approval)**  
**Rehabilitate existing sidewalk**  
**Grading, loam, and seed.**

**The Summary of Phase II – Site 3 – Little league Existing Parking Area included the following:**

**1 raised cross walk**  
**Limited landscaping**  
**2 pedestrian landing areas**  
**Grading, loam, and seed**  
**Gravel Parking (by Town)**

**The Phase II Budget was then pressed which included the following:**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>OOB In-kind</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	\$20,694	\$ 0	\$ 20,695
2	63,967	35,937	99,904
3	24,123	0	24,123
4	8,000	0	8,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$116,785</b>	<b>\$ 35,937</b>	<b>\$ 152,722</b>
<b>Engineering</b>			<b>18,000</b>
<b>Inspections</b>			<b>9,000</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 179,722</b>

**80% MDOT funding = \$144,000**  
**20% OOB In-kind services = \$36,000**  
**Total Project Budget = \$180,000**  
**Includes 10% Contingency**

**The biggest concerns from the Town Council was a proposed sidewalk in front of Old Orchard High School and the lack of sidewalk for students walking from Smithwheel Drive. The proposal includes re-doing the parking lot in front of the High School so that it can contain three times the amount of cars it does presently. It also includes a sidewalk in the middle of the lot that continued around the back of part of the lot, continuing over the driveway and connecting to an existing sidewalk that leads to the football field. The Town Manager said that there has been a**

desire to build a larger parking lot but the point of the grant was a safe route to school and to build safer walkways, not bigger parking lots.

The Chair asked if the Council could keep the stretch of sidewalk in the middle of the parking lot which would be used for handicapped access to the building and eliminate the rest. Mr. Wingard said that the point of the sidewalk was that it connected to the rest of the walkway from Phase One of the project. Councilor Dayton noted that to cut a bigger huge L shape in that beautiful space does not make sense. Resident Jerome Begert said that a lot of students walking down Smithwheel Avenue to school trespass on private property because there is not a sidewalk. He said, "There will be a lot of smirks on peoples' faces when they see a brand new parking lot but still no safe route from their homes to the High School. Councilor Dayton again indicated that the proposed sidewalk in front of the High School was not aesthetically pleasing and since the point of the project was to provide safe routes to school, why couldn't a sidewalk be installed at the most dangerous part of the area, which is the corner near Cider Hill and Dirigo Drive. Vice Chair Tousignant agreed with Councilor Dayton that that was the most dangerous area. Public Works Director Bill Robertson indicated that the area might not be considered a school zone. Mr. Wingard said the grant was focused on the area of school but that it would be asked of the officials of the Maine Department of Transportation if the scope could be changed. Mr. Wingard also indicated that although the first part of the grant was part of a "safe routes to school" grant, the second phase came from different funding. The proposal had the Town putting gravel in the Little League parking lot as an in-kind service and Vice Chair Tousignant suggested the Town do the sidewalk in the Cider Hill area instead. "We'd be getting one hundred percent more bank for our buck if we moved it." The Public Works Director said that if the sidewalk on Smithwheel Drive did not get completed as part of this project, the Town could do it at a later date. The proposal included raised crosswalk areas near Ballpark Way, the Little League field and in the driveway to the High School to slow down the traffic. Vice Chair Tousignant said that he did not like the idea of raised crosswalks on the street, especially since large trucks from Blow Brothers would be driving down the street. The Public Works Director said that instead of a raised area, a different grade or texture could be laid down to slow traffic. Councilor Dayton said that proposed trees in front of the Police Station would make the department less visible and Jerome Begard indicated that the proposed trees near the crosswalk at the Little League field would cause visibility and safety concerns for children crossing the street.

A summary of the changes that were suggested are:

#### Site 1 (Middle School)

1. Remove speed tables and replace with at-grade textured concrete crossings.
2. Add "School Zone" signage near intersection (if allowed by MeDOT).
3. Verify esplanade width to ensure that parking can be maintained at school.
4. Remove trees in front of new police station so as to not block view of the new building.
5. Maintain existing ball park sign at corner of EEC and Ball Park Way.
6. Police station project budget should consider widening Ball Park Way.

#### Site 2 (High School)

1. Maintain existing trees along Phase I path because they were class gifts.
2. Sidewalk should be asphalt versus pavers to save budget.

- 3. Add sidewalk from Phase I path to existing sidewalk along northwest side of access road.**
- 4. Consider new sidewalk near Cider Hill corner instead of improvements at high school.**
- 5. Councilor Dayton not in favor of increased pavement area at high school.**
- 6. Consider less parking area.**
- 7. Consider extending new sidewalk to new Phase I path instead of east towards ball fields.**

**Site 3 (Little League Field)**

- 1. Consider site lines and remove trees near crosswalk.**
- 2. Remove speed tables and replace with at-grade textured concrete crossings.**
- 3. Do not show sidewalk along EEC.**

**The next step will be to contact the MeDOT to see if they are amenable to the changes.**

**The Chair adjourned the Workshop at 9:15 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**V. Louise Reid  
Town Council Secretary**

**I, V. Louise Reid, Secretary to the Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, do hereby certify that the foregoing document consisting of four (4) pages is a true copy of the original Minutes of the Town Council Workshop of May 27, 2010.**

**Louise Reid**