

Borough of Hightstown
Complete Streets Committee

10/28/2020 – Committee Meeting

7:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

Call in Details:(701) 802-5470 Access Code: 6569865

Or online <https://www.freeconferencecall.com/wall/jcicalese>

CALL TO ORDER

STATEMENT: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was provided to the *Trenton Times* and the *Windsor-Hights Herald* and is posted in the Borough Clerk's office.

- Roll Call

Member	Attended	Absent
Council Member Steve Misiura, Vice-Chair	▪	
Council Member Joe Cicalese, Chair	▪	
Beverly Asselstine, Secretary, Planning Board representative	▪	
Dave Zaiser, Environmental Commission representative	▪	
Brian Clissold	▪	
Alex Costantino		▪
Tim Troxler	▪	

- Approval of Agenda **Approved as amended with additional items**
- **Approval of Minutes from August and September Meetings - Approved**

DISCUSSION

- Review/discuss Mobility Master Plan presentation from 10/21 meeting – **Reviewed project status and discussed next steps, including Public Information Center in November and presentation to the Planning Board in December.**
- **Infrastructure – Annual Planning Discussion with guest Carmela Roberts, Borough Engineer – Reviewed status of projects on last year's report and new projects (see report attached).**

- **Ward Street Bridge – Steve provided a summary of the meeting with Mercer County officials.**
 - **The bridge is obsolete and no longer meets NJ DOT standards. On a scale of 1 to 100, it scored 11.3. The new bridge will have an increased load capacity to meet current NJ DOT standards, but we have discretion to restrict trucks.**
 - **The current bridge is 22 feet wide and the current minimum standard is 32 feet. The County recommends the new bridge to be 34 feet wide with a 10 foot wide walkway on the south side, and 2 travel lanes and 2 bike lanes on the main bridge area.**
 - **The new bridge will encroach on Peddie property on the west and a number of issues have to be managed in that area, including underground fiber optic and the close proximity of the house at the northwest corner.**
 - **The new bridge has not been designed, but the County wants to help maintain the historic feel of the bridge by reusing the metal truss work (in a decorative way and not structurally).**
 - **There will be a temporary pedestrian bridge across the lake during construction, which will help accommodate Peddie and Hightstown High School students who use this route to school.**
 - **Timing is expected to be 2022 to 2023. There are lots of permits to be obtained and there are some design issues that need to be overcome, including balancing roadway elevations and headroom requirements under the bridge itself. There will be 3 public meetings to gather input.**
 - **There is an opportunity for Hightstown coordinate with this project and the contracting for it's constructions in order to achieve some economies of scale on implementing the Mobility Plan recommendations for Ward and Maxwell, including the intersection roundabout and completing the sidewalk network.**
- **DVRPC Grant – The Committee reviewed the one proposal received in response to our RFP for the Redevelopment Area Circulation Plan. The Committee agreed that the firm is qualified, but the proposal reflected a misunderstanding of the scope and, therefore, included significant work that was not intended for this project. The RFP scope was reviewed and edits suggested. Bev will provide feedback to the Borough Administrator that we reject the proposal and rebid the project with revised scope.**
- **NJ DOT Letter concerning Franklin and Main Street – The Committee reviewed a letter stating the state will be returning to Hightstown to complete ADA compliance work at the area near the dam where emergency repairs were made during Hurricane Irene. The Borough Administrator is confirming this is their intent and will discuss timing, since this area is**

currently under study for both the Mobility Plan and the DVRPC grant for the Redevelopment Area Circulation Study.

ADJOURNMENT

Borough of Hightstown

Complete Streets Committee Infrastructure Project Report

10/28/2020

Philosophy: Leverage municipal aid funding for projects that create a connected network of street improvements, including paving, curbs and sidewalks. Coordinate with water main, storm sewer and other infrastructure work funded by Borough. If needed and whenever possible, supplement with additional Borough funds to complete the network for the project area. Incorporate street trees whenever possible.

Any street work completed over the last 30 years has included removing any lead water service lines and goose neck connectors. No lead remains in the street, but may remain from curb to house.

Active projects 2019 to 2021:

- **Completed:** Church Street sidewalks on both sides of street, Foreman sidewalk on one side of street, Water main work
- **Completed:** Maple sidewalks on one side (funded by Municipal Aid), Sunset sidewalks on full length north side (funded by Borough to complete network)
- **Completed:** First Avenue – new water main, roadway, curbs and sidewalks where possible in rightaway.
- In process: Lincoln sidewalks and curbs and diseased tree removal and replacement, Hagemount sidewalks and stormwater management with under drains, pumps and ground water recharge, Rocky Brook Court no sidewalks due to large tree, steep grades impacting driveways and lack of through traffic. Funded by Municipal Aid. About one month of work remains.
- In process: Springcrest, Glenn, Taylor, Spruce Court – Funded by Municipal Aid. Existing conditions survey and design phase. Expect to advertise in January 2021 and award contract by March 25 deadline. Will include sidewalks on one side of Springcrest to complete sidewalk network to Hightstown High School from South Main where new County crosswalk and ramp has been installed and new JCP&L street light was installed. Removing sanitation pump and will install gravity main.
- In process: Stockton at Joseph – new cross walk and ADA ramps installed to facilitate school crossing (moved to the east to avoid the wide five point intersection at Harron, Oak and Dutch Neck Road). Sidewalk on Joseph to be installed Spring 2021. Approved to advertise.
- In process: Stockton from historic district to the Borough line – water line improvements, including in-street lines, house service lines and fire hydrants. Water line contract completed. One punch list item remains on curbing. County

installing new crosswalk and ADA ramps at Oak Lane on west side of intersection and will repave summer 2021, after sidewalks are completed on Stockton and Joseph. The County will also help rationalize the large number of signs on this road segment and add shared road bicycle signs and pavement markings.

- In process: Dutch Neck Road – County will repave if Hightstown buys the asphalt since this is a road of regional importance. This might take place summer 2021 when they repave Stockton through the County paving program. Note: Joint Hightstown and East Windsor application for Safe Routes to School funding for roadway redesign and sidewalks on Dutch Neck Road, Herron and Morrison was rejected. East Windsor moved forward with sidewalk and driveway apron replacement on Morrison to the Borough line.
- In process: Railroad Avenue, Dey Street, Center Street – awarded Municipal Aid for 100% of request. Council needs to allocate funding in 2021 budget. Project will reconstruct Railroad Avenue and create a rear exit from the new Borough Hall. Sidewalks will be added on Dey and Center, where possible. New ADA ramp and crosswalk across Mercer at Academy to correct wheelchair/stroller hazard at storm sewer grate, which should be reviewed during design phase to align with Mobility Plan recommendation for that intersection. The objective is to create a super block of continuous sidewalk around the new Borough facility. Some delays have resulted on the new Borough Hall project due to the need to do a historic survey of the building as a requirement of the Federal grant, but this does not impact the lots included in Municipal Aid grant. Note: one section Summit is still an impediment to completing the full sidewalk loop because of an old septic system on the private property.
- In process: Prospect, Bennett, Houser: repeated water main breaks need to be addressed with new line. Area currently has no sidewalks and narrow streets with a significant amount of on-street parking. This is a secluded neighborhood near two elementary schools without through traffic. Municipal Aid grant received November 2020.
- Plans for funding repairs to three municipal water storage tanks through the state infrastructure bank's low interest loan fund are in consideration as part of the 2021 budget. This would allow construction in 2021.

Future potential projects:

- Schyler, Orchard, Clover and Meadow: repeated water main problems on Schyler, Orchard has not been paved for a very long time. Clover and Meadow were last repaved 15 years ago. No existing sidewalks. Roads are wide. This is a secluded neighborhood near Peddie and Hightstown High School without through traffic.
- Franklin Street (Route 33): no concrete road under the asphalt. Four inch diameter cast iron water mains all along road with lead goose neck connectors to

houses. From Maxwell to Borough line to the east there are no sidewalks and the roadway is very wide with a need for traffic calming measures. Intersection with traffic light at Maxwell needs to be redesigned with the state. Sidewalks and roadway/intersection redesign needs to be coordinated with water line work. Given debt funding anticipated for new municipal water tanks, this is likely a project for 2022 or 2023.

- Maxwell, Broad, Manlove, Monmouth, Cole and Clinton: Maxwell, Broad and Manlove have sidewalk gaps and have deteriorated roadways. Manlove has one block that has never been paved south of Franklin. Cole and Clinton had a new water line installed and some roadway work, but some sidewalk gaps exist. Unlike Maxwell, Broad and Manlove, these are isolated roads with no through traffic. Monmouth (county route) has sidewalk gaps and many sidewalks and curbs in need of repair.
- Reed, Chamberlain, Mechanic, Purdy: Streets were redone, but only piece meal work on curbs and sidewalks. Funding from municipal aid at the time was not enough to complete the network and Council voted not to supplement funding at the time.
- Problem areas identified as part of the Mobility Plan
 - Summit Street and intersection with Mercer: one lot on Summit has septic system and cannot reach the gravity sewer without a pump. This needs to be addressed as part of the completion of the sidewalk network and other recommendations for traffic calming and bike facilities.
 - Bank Street improvements as part of the redevelopment project.
 - Ward Street
 - Route 33
 - Intersection Ward, Route 33 and Academy
 - Intersection Franklin and Maxwell
 - Intersection Maxwell and Ward
 - Intersection Stockton, Oak, Harron, Dutch Neck