

Borough of Hightstown
Complete Streets Committee

6/23/2021 – Committee Meeting

6:30 pm

Meeting Minutes

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87898867369?pwd=NzBGN0x0Z3RBWjFZd2ZMY3lqbIpOZz09>

Meeting ID: 878 9886 7369

Passcode: G32ZcK

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 878 9886 7369

Passcode: 770060

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 Joe Cicalese, Chair	X	
Council Member Steve Misiura, Vice-Chair	X	
Beverly Asselstine, Secretary, Planning Board representative	X	
Dave Zaiser, Environmental Commission representative		X
Brian Clissold	X left early	
Tim Troxler	X	

- Approval of Agenda **Approved**
- Approval of Minutes **Approved**

PROJECT TEAM MEETING: Redevelopment Area Circulation Plan

Guests: Mike Danmiller (NV5), Nick Perrotto (Feinberg Design), George Chin
NV5 reported that they have been unable to connect with the Fire Department to share preliminary ideas about adding a right turn lane on Franklin to North Main. Discussed potential outreach activities in August at Fun Fridays or National Night Out, including drawbacks given the limited audience expected to attend. Determined that the plan to share concepts to Planning Board and Council will provide an opportunity for promotion of concept and gathering public input. Reviewed list of next steps from last meeting:

- **Develop the concepts more fully for right turn lane, other intersections and optimizing intersections for pedestrians so they can be discussed with Council and the Planning Board, determine how much right of way is available for the right turn lane and how much would have to be taken from the northeast corner and eastern edge of Franklin by the shopping center and reach out to Fire Chief for feedback.**

PUBLIC COMMENT none

Brian reported that the flashing crosswalk sign was installed on Stockton Street at Joseph today.

Bev reported seeing a police crosswalk enforcement program this afternoon at Mercer and Grape Run where cars were being pulled over in both directions for not stopping for pedestrians at the pedestrian activated flashing signal.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Borough Engineer/SRTS Grant Guest Carmela Roberts. Discussed Engineer's proposed alternatives for the Safe Routes to School grant application. The Committee recommended the rotary at Stockton and Oak/Harron/Dutch Neck Road. Discussed next steps if Council approves this option, including the need to do public outreach to the neighborhood given comments received during the development of the Mobility Plan that set the expectation that there would be public input into a final treatment for this intersection and the need to do outreach to the school district and the County, to both engineering and planning. Bev to follow-up with Carmela if the project is selected to participate in County outreach.**
- **Borough Hall Driveway Concept review Reviewed Engineer's latest concept alternatives for the driveway across the greenway to Railroad Avenue. The Committee discussed the merits of limiting traffic on Railroad by making it one way to Dey, limiting the width of the drive and adding a permeable shoulder for emergency use, minimizing the impact on trees, and being more thoughtful about the size of our fire truck equipment going forward to**

be more nimble in meeting the needs of our built up environment and narrow roadways.

- **Vision Zero** Bev reviewed a brief presentation on Vision Zero from Greater Mercer TMA and discussed how they are beginning to advocate for this policy across Mercer County. Vision Zero is a strategy for improving safety, which is design focused. Complete Streets is an element of Vision Zero. Princeton has already established a Vision Zero Task Force and has held their first meeting where they are beginning the process of reviewing policies, enforcement and metrics to track progress. GMTMA has drafted a policy statement and resolution for municipalities to consider.
- **Mercer County Trails Planning Event** Bev reported on preliminary planning for a County-wide retreat to do a deep dive on how to move forward in a coordinated way to complete trail segments throughout Mercer County. It would be sponsored by GMTMA and the goal would be to have representatives from the County Planning Department and each municipality attend, along with trail advocates, in order to build connections for partnerships to move the County Trails Plan forward in a meaningful way. The Committee decided to recommend to the Environmental Commission that they designate someone to participate in the event.
- **County/Municipal Project update from GMTMA Task Force** Bev reviewed notes from the most recent Mercer County Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force meeting on various projects underway throughout the County.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Safe Routes to Schools award** Bev reported that Hightstown was given a **Gold Level Recognition Award** by NJDOT for Safe Routes to School. Our previous recognition was at the Silver Level.

<https://www.saferoutesnj.org/current-safe-routes-to-school-recognition-program-winners/>

- **Pedestrian and Bike Safety Month** Bev reported on the **Bicycle Night at the Brewery**, the **Street Smart** public education campaign and the **Speed Study**. She will provide the final report of the Speed Study before the next meeting, so we can discuss next steps with a report to Council.
- **Mobility Plan implementation strategies** No additional input received from **Borough Boards and Commissions**.

Steve reported on a conversation with Public Works on the idea of using a painted roundabout at Ward and Mercer as a pilot. Public Works can easily lay down the paint, but they will need a layout guide from the Borough Engineer and recommended we purchase some signage as part of the pilot.

Joe reported that there will be no Harvest Fair this fall and no Triathlon. There will be a Latino Festival in August.

ADJOURNMENT