



Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee
Of The Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission
City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

TO: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Members

FROM: Thanh Dang, Public Works Planner

DATE: May 28, 2013

RE: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Agenda for Monday June 3, 2013

The Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee will meet on Monday June 3, 2013 at 6:00pm in the Community Development classroom, 409 South Main Street, Harrisonburg. Meetings are always open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

Welcome

Public comments, limited to 5 minutes each, for topics not on the agenda.

Business

- 1. Recap: Bike Month**
- 2. Next Safe Routes to School Grant – Thanh Dang**
- 3. Update: HRMPO Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan– Thanh Dang**
- 4. Update: Rockingham County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan**
 - a. Rockingham County Bicycle Advisory Committee,
<http://www.rockinghamcountyva.gov/index.aspx?NID=150>
- 5. Update: Downtown Master Streetscape Plan Public Forum June 6, 2013 – Thanh Dang**
<http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/downtown-streetscape-plan>
- 6. New Middle School Proposal – Charlie Chenault**
 - a. See also Attachment A

7. Update on projects under design/construction (Attachment B) – Thanh Dang

Announcements

8. League Certified Instructor (LCI) Seminar in Harrisonburg October 18, 19, 20. – Thanh Dang

- a. Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) Scholarship.** Information will be available at www.svbcoalition.org soon.

Next Meeting: Monday July 22, 2013 at 6pm in the Community Development Classroom, 409 South Main Street

Adjourn

Attachment A: Excerpt from City Council Agenda for May 28, 2013

AGENDA ITEM ACTION REQUEST

	<p>Meeting Date: May 28, 2013 Meeting Type: Regular <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Requestor:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other School Board</p>	<p>Item: Request for Council support of a new middle school</p>
<p>Reviewed:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<p>Review: At its May 7, 2013 meeting, the School Board unanimously approved a motion requesting "the formal support of City Council to proceed with planning to build a new middle school with a capacity of at least 900 students on city and/or school board property in the vicinity of the existing high school property with the intent to open in the fall of 2016.</p>
<p>Recommend:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Manager <input type="checkbox"/> City Attorney <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	
	<p>Attachments: 1. Letter from the Superintendent</p>

"A place where learning has no limits and together we work for the success of all."

May 8, 2013

Kurt Hodgen, City Manager
City of Harrisonburg
345 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

Dear Kurt:

As requested the school board unanimously approved a motion at their May 7, 2013, school board meeting. The motion read --"I move that we seek the formal support of City Council to proceed with planning to build a new middle school with a capacity of at least 900 students on city and/or school board property in the vicinity of the existing high school property with the intent to open in the fall of 2016; and to seek funding to re-configure the current Thomas Harrison Middle School as a suitable elementary school."

It would be greatly appreciated if the City Council can formally take action at either the May 14 or May 28 City Council meeting so we can proceed with a request for proposal for architectural services. As you can imagine, there is significant planning that needs to occur and the sooner the council acts, the earlier we can proceed with not only the building design plans but also issues pertaining to redistricting, staffing, etc.

On a separate matter, the school system would be very interested in working with the City Council in developing bike and walking trails to the new middle school building site. This morning I attended Bike to School Day at Thomas Harrison Middle School and this appeared to be a very positive and supported event by the community. Planning the bike and walk trails simultaneously as we plan for a new school might promote efficiency.

On behalf of the school board and myself, I want to thank you and the City Council in advance for your support of our school building needs. Our school system is making great strides, and we are receiving national recognition as recently indicated by being listed in both *Newsweek* magazine and the *Washington Post* as one of the top high schools in the country. These recognitions can only support the City's effort to promote economic development and a high quality of life for its citizens.

Sincerely,



Scott R. Kizner, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

SRK/ll

c School Board
City Council

ATTACHMENT B: Update on City Projects under design and construction

For the June 3, Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee meeting. General information is also available at: <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/transportation-projects>.

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, OR SOON TO START CONSTRUCTION

- **Erickson Avenue-Stone Spring Road Phase III** – Road improvement project includes new sidewalks and bike lanes. www.ericksonstonespring.org.
 - UPDATE: Project under construction.
- **Gay Street Sidewalks** – Construct new sidewalks on the north side of Gay Street between Sterling Street to Summit Street. This project is funded by Community Development Block Grants.
 - UPDATE: Sidewalk between Hill and Summit Street has been completed. Working now on Summit to Sterling Street.
- **Safe Routes to School: Waterman Elementary School** – Sidewalks on west side of Chicago Avenue between 2nd Street and Rockingham Drive, bike lanes on Chicago Avenue between Gay Street and Rockingham Drive, sidewalk on south side of 3rd Street between Collicello Street to Stuart Street, sidewalk on east side of Stuart Street, sidewalks on both sides of Virginia Avenue from about 2nd Street to 5th Street. Estimate cost: ~\$610,000. Funded by VDOT SRTS Program and anticipated Community Development Block Grant Funds.
<http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/waterman-safe-routes>
 - UPDATE: Construction of new sidewalks on Virginia Avenue is underway. Project to be completed November 2013.
- **Traffic Signal Upgrades at North High Street/Wolfe Street and Virginia Avenue/Gay Street** – These signal upgrades will include adding new pedestrian signals at High/Wolfe and improving the pedestrian signals at Virginia/Gay.
 - UPDATE: This project is currently under construction.
- **University Boulevard Sidewalk Phase I** - Construct sidewalks along the north side of University Boulevard between East Market Street to Evelyn Byrd Avenue, and a portion of Evelyn Byrd Avenue on the west side between University Boulevard and the existing sidewalk. Pedestrian signals to also be installed at the intersections of University Boulevard & Evelyn Byrd Ave, and University & Valley Mall entrance (at existing traffic signal). Funded by City.
 - UPDATE: Project is completed!

PROJECTS UNDER DESIGN/ PLANNING

- **Bluestone Trail Phase I** – Construct a 10-ft wide shared use path between Port Republic Road at Bluestone Drive to Wellness Drive off Berry Road. Estimated cost: Being developed. Anticipated construction advertisement May 2014. Partially funded by: DCR Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant. More information available at: <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/Bluestone-Trail>
 - UPDATE: Change in project limits? City surveyor has completed survey work. Design engineering underway by McCormick Taylor. Environmental studies nearly completed;

waiting for Jurisdictional Determination letter. Anticipate Council update presentation for June 25, 2013.

- **Bruce Street and Liberty Street Improvements** – The City is working with Matchbox Realty on sidewalk and other road improvements around the Casco Ice building at the corner of Bruce and Liberty Streets. Improvements being reviewed include, but are not limited to, widening sidewalks where possible to achieve ADA clearances, moving utility poles in sidewalks if possible, constructing new sidewalks with the decorative concrete design, adding pedestrian signals and crosswalks at the intersection of Liberty Street and Bruce Street.
 - UPDATE: This project is currently under design and review by the City and Matchbox Realty. Funding sources for this project has not yet been determined.

- **Cale Trail – Westover Park, West Market Street, & Thomas Harrison Middle School** – Shared use path to connect Thomas Harrison Middle School and Westover Park through the former Cale property that was donated to the City by Dr. William Cale and Mrs. Susan Cale.
 - UPDATE: Parks & Recreation has completed clearing the corridor. We are not ready to promote the trail for public use. City staff, Subcommittee members, and Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition volunteers have been meeting with Thomas Harrison Middle School staff and parents to determine alignment between former Cale property to the school entrances. Parks & Recreation working on alignment within Westover Park to neighborhood.

- **Thomas Harrison Middle School to Hillandale Park connectors** – Construct a path from Wyndham Wood Drive to Thomas Harrison Middle School and West Market Street, and a path between Circle Drive to Hillandale Park. This project is in the planning phase and is not yet funded.
 - **Thomas Harrison Middle to Wyndham Drive**
 - UPDATE: Subcommittee re-initiating outreach with property owners.
 - **Wyndham Woods Circle to Hillandale Park**
 - UPDATE: Negotiations for this connector is at a standstill. Property owner and City unable to come to an agreement for alignment.

- **Carlton Street and Reservoir Street Roundabout** – This project is being funded by a combination of VDOT Revenue Sharing Funds and local funds. A roundabout at this location will improve intersection safety for motorists and pedestrians. More information: <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/transportation-projects>
 - UPDATE: This project is currently under design and is being coordinate with adjacent property owners. Construction is anticipated to begin in Summer 2014.

- **Downtown Streetscape Plan Update** – Update of previous Downtown Streetscape Plan (2004) to provide a comprehensive downtown streetscape plan that will develop a vision for all streets in the study area to develop public and private expectation for project elements. Study areas include the Downtown Core, Downtown Transition Area, and Downtown Gateways. More information available at: <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/downtown-streetscape-plan>
 - UPDATE: Staff presented draft plan to Council on March 26 and will go to forum on June 6, 2013. Public is encouraged to attend public forum.

- **Downtown Streetscape Project Phase 2** – This project includes replacing sidewalk on the west side of Main Street between Bruce Street and South Court Square, replacing sidewalks on the east side of Main Street between Elizabeth Street and Wolfe Street installing decorative stamped crosswalks at intersections, replacing existing street lighting with decorative lights, replace and upgrade traffic signals, and install pedestrian signals. This project is anticipated to begin construction in Summer 2014.
 - UPDATE: This project is currently under design.

- **East Market Street Sidewalk Phase IV** – Construct a 5-ft wide sidewalk with 2-ft grass strip on south side of East Market Street between Carlton Street and 400' north of Hawkins Street. This project will also include pedestrian signals at the intersections of East Market Street with Carlton Street and Hawkins Street/Vine Street. Estimated cost: greater than \$ 400,000. Funded by VDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program.
 - UPDATE: The right-of-way phase for this project is underway and city staff will be meeting with 6 property owners who will be impacted by this project due to needed right of way, temporary construction easements, or impacts to existing signage which the city would relocate. This project is not anticipated to start construction until March 2014.

- **Mt. Clinton Pike/ Chicago Avenue/ Park Road Roundabout** – Following the Chicago Avenue Corridor Study, completed in early 2013, the City initiated work on design of this roundabout to improve the intersections of Mt. Clinton Pike with Chicago Avenue and Park Road. This project is being funded by a combination of VDOT Revenue Sharing Funds and local funds. More information: <http://www.chicagoavenue.org/>.
 - UPDATE: Design is currently underway and project is being coordinated with Eastern Mennonite University and adjacent property owners. A public input meeting is anticipated for Summer 2013.

- **Northend Greenway** – 2.5-mile Shared use path that will run between Park View area (near EMU/EMHS) that will mostly follow Blacks Run into downtown (near Washington St & N Main St), then travel via Federal Street alley to the Farmers Market. This project will be completed in multiple phases which have not been finalized yet. This is a public-private partnership between the City, and New Community Project and Northend Greenway volunteers. Estimated cost: Being developed.
 - UPDATE: Landscape Advisory Committee meetings have been completed. Design Principles document is under final review by the City. Meetings with property owners to request letters of intent for donating easements is underway by Northend Greenway (group). Anticipate Council update presentation for June 25, 2013.

- **Oak Drive Paper Street** – Construct a natural surface trail between Circle Drive and Rocktown Trails.
 - UPDATE: Property owners and city have come to an agreement on land exchange and location of new natural surface trail. City Surveyor is working on plats to include with deeds that City Attorney will write up. Once deeds are signed and recorded, Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition volunteers will be working on constructing the new trail.

- **Reservoir Street Project** – Widen Reservoir Street to sections of 5-lane facility and 4-lane facility with median. Project will include sidewalks on both sides and bike lanes.
<http://www.reservoirstreet.org/>
 - UPDATE: Engineering design and right-of-way negotiations with property owners is currently underway. Project anticipated going to construction in 2014.