

**Bike Path Connector Task Force
Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2021**

[Link to Shared Google Drive](#)

[Link to the Inquiry Form](#)

[Link to Agenda](#)

[Link to Inquiry folder](#)

[Link to master document](#)

[Spreadsheet with data resources](#)

Attendance

Gary Temple
Eva Patrone
Oscar Ramos
Kriss Grisham
Andrew Hotaling
Gretchen Horlacher
Nick Suzich
Mary Blake

Town Residents

Sandy Styles
Mimi Styles
Joan Mahaffey
Jay Everhart
Barbara Raimondo

Discussion

Significance of Kyle Lukacs' comments regarding MC Planning Board favoring the Brown St. connection

Lukacs reiterated that the Planning Board 4/29 meeting conveyed to DOT, based on a 5-0 vote, that they were in favor of Brown St. over the other two primary large pathway options. It looks increasingly like the County is moving firmly in favor of choosing the Brown St. option.

The planning commission also wanted to proceed with the planning of the Amity Drive path and potentially the Amity Drive road. Maybe as a path initially, and eventually as a road. The funding is only in the planning stage. Until the Amity Drive path is completed, any potential Amity path traffic would proceed along Ridge Road via Pieca View or Bounding Bend connectors.

We asked Kyle what would be the significance if in the course of our investigation, if the Town Council came up with a different conclusion, what would be the consequences?

To paraphrase Lukacs, they would continue to be open to new Grove ideas, but the Grove needs to be a partner in this project because the connection with the Town is essential. If the Town suggested another option, unless it had highly compelling evidence in favor of making them change their minds, they would either most likely delay or drop the project for the time being.

It does not sound like the other options are what they would consider to be optimal. If we insisted on a different route, they might delay the project. It is important for people to know that if they are set on certain other options (like Railroad St), that is more like a vote for not having the path anytime soon.

However, Lukacs said the door is not closed. They want/need to work with us in order for this to go forward.

The task force mission was to look at reasonable options. The 3 primary ones: Railroad, Brown St, and the Meadow A. We also got a request to consider Meadow B with some advantages and disadvantages. Then there was another railroad option- if Railroad St were to be extended between Salt barn and Grove, that would be a nice connection to have. Kyle acknowledged that, but that would be in the future. They are not considering that for the near future.

They could start construction in June 2023 (start of MC FY24) on Brown St if that is what they choose.

Discussion about the role of the Task Force, given this information.

- Do we focus on all the options?
- Do we focus our efforts on data for Brown St?
- Do we consider a "no option?"

Unanimous Task Force decision to continue with the original mission: gather data on all connector options, and pass on our data to the Town Council, which will proceed accordingly.

We will need to focus on the impact in Town. Anything related to safety, historical/cultural, [liability seems to be settled]. We should hone in on what the connection does throughout Town. Also include what an Amity trail would do, and how that would siphon off some of the in Town traffic.

We will emphasize mitigating factors and what actions the Town could take.

September 1 meeting

Agenda

Virtual meeting

Brief ppt presentation- 15 minutes.

Open up to Town questions and comments

11 people have submitted comments so far

2 minutes per question- Andrew will take time and give 30 second warnings

Who represents each group?

- EC1- 1 person will field the question and pass it off to whoever is more prepared to respond.
- EC2- Oscar
- EC3- Nick
- EC4- Andrew
- EC5- Mary can field the questions
- EC6- Nick
- EC7- Gretchen
- EC8- Kriss
- EC9- Gary
- EC10- Gretchen
- EC11- Gary
- EC12- Nick

Survey

Discussion about construction of the survey and how to word it properly.

- Mary will work on the survey
 - Kriss, Gary, Nick, Oscar are interested in working on it
 - Eva will offer thoughts.

What else do we need to do

Are we limiting Task Force responses to 2 minutes?

- Yes. We can also say that we are in the process of finding data and discuss our process.

Oscar will type a document transcribing the audience comments/questions plus TF responses, with a link in the chat for anyone to follow, if they desire.

3 days until the open meeting which was later corrected to 2 days remaining to our open meeting

Were Task Force members able to look at the resource docs in the spreadsheet to confirm their accuracy and whether they represent the spectrum of resources?

Emphasize that we have been in collection mode for the past month, and we have not digested the data that we have collected as of yet. By the second open meeting, we should have digested it.

We should have a way of estimating the quality of the data.

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 1, 7:30pm