

Shared Use Path Task Force Report

Jay Everhart <j54ay@icloud.com>

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To: Gary Temple <gftemple@gmail.com>; Kriss Grisham <chambers.grisham@icloud.com>; Oscar Ramos <oscar.ramos.01@gmail.com>; Horlacher Gretchen <gretchenhorlacher2008@comcast.net>; Blake Mary <mary.m.blake@gmail.com>; Jeffrey McCrehan <mccrehan@icloud.com>; Andrew Hotaling <hotalinga@gmail.com>; Nick Suzich <nicksuzich@comcast.net>; Compton John <johncompton@me.com>; Dibble Christine <christinedibble@outlook.com>; Patrice Klein <patriceklein@hotmail.com>; Gray Yachup <Gyachup@gmail.com>; Raimondo Barbara <baraimondo@me.com>; dcosson@klctele.com <dcosson@klctele.com>; Patron Eva <evamarie.patrone@gmail.com>; Darrell Anderson <deanderson47@verizon.net>

Dear Town Council (TC) and Shared Use Path Task Force (TF) members:

TF members are volunteers who are committed to the betterment of Washington Grove (WG). They have worked uncounted hours, held many weekly meetings open to the public and were under a tight deadline to produce their report.

The TF was provided few resources and no budget. Several members came onto the TF knowing little about the shared use path. Yet, the TF produced a first rate and admirable report in the time specified by TC. Most important, it stuck to and achieved its mandate of "... researching and providing relevant, verifiable evidence regarding the pathway options, assisting the Town to make an informed choice of its preferred pathway option."

The report is well organized and written. Members had to abide by the evaluation criteria provided to them, which they did admirably, as they considered how the criteria applied to individual options as well as the general idea of shared use path. The resulting document was supported by 72 references and a 38 page bibliography that includes source, description, and relevant evaluation criteria for each of approximately 130 citations.

To accomplish all this, the TF had to sift through and distill hundreds of documents and comments and to conduct interviews. They proceeded in a fair, unbiased, and deliberate manner. They even examined route proposals from town residents that were impractical and vague.

The TF was thoughtful and thorough. Throughout the process all in town had an opportunity to comment and provide information. Residents wanted more process, and the TF certainly delivered. Congratulations.

Yours truly,

Jay Everhart
118 Grove Ave