



MINUTES

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Village Green Municipal
Building Council Chambers
47 Hall Street

September 5, 2017

6:30 p.m.

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Those present included:

Committee Members and Council: Jim Hrivnak, Chairman; Councilmembers Jon Bennehoof; Frank Bertone; Brendan Newcomb; Daniel Swartwout; Chris Shear, Member; Steve Lutz, City Manager; and Dave Betz, Development Director. Tom Counts and Mayor Lorenz were absent.

Staff/Others: Megan Canavan, Communications Director; Karen J. Mitchell, City Clerk; and other interested parties.

Approval of Minutes – The minutes of July 5, 2017 were approved.

Today's Business

- **Seldom Seen Park – Contracting Process.** Mr. Lutz explained that the bids received for Seldom Seem Park were above the cost estimate and exceeded the amount of money available for the first three phases of construction. After discussing alternatives, the consensus of Operations was to use a negotiated process where the City could meet and negotiate directly with contractors in an attempt to proceed quicker and more cost-effectively. Tonight there is a proposed ordinance on the agenda before Council which would allow the City to move forward in this manner. Assuming it is adopted, Mr. Lutz estimates a 30-60 day process. Operations is putting together a small group of councilmembers who will work with staff to move this forward.
- **Bike paths Plan Update – Examine New Priorities?** Mr. Betz noted that the City has built quite a few of the priority bike path this year. Staff updated the bike paths map on the website.

Mr. Betz stated that he did meet with Matt Huffman, Liberty Township Administrator, about the Rutherford Road railroad crossing which is a priority for them, as well as the Jewett Road path because they want to provide access to the Olentangy Trail.

ACTION PLAN: The Committee will review the updated bike path map on the City website with an eye to look at those paths that are not yet completed (noted in red) and prioritize the next group of paths to be completed. The labels identify the projects by number. Private paths to be done by developers are labeled as letters. Staff will take a more regional look at the paths in the surrounding area and how those might be connected.

- **Four Corners Turn Restriction Discussion.** There is an ordinance before Council tonight to make the left turn restriction permanent from Liberty Street to Olentangy Street, Monday through Friday, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The intersection is already restricted permanently from Olentangy Street to Liberty Street during that time. The Committee discussed the mostly positive feedback received from the community on having the restriction in place.

Mr. Lutz asked the group if there were any thoughts on permanent directional signs. There are currently temporary, construction signs in place at S. Liberty & Murphy Parkway; S.R. 750 & Murphy Parkway; S.R. 750 & Bennett Parkway. This would not require a new ordinance, but there would be a need to change the temporary orange signs out with permanent signs.

Mr. Betz suggested timing it to tie in with the broader wayfinding plan as well as the rebranding items that Ms. Canavan is working on for next year. If it needs to be crucial to move faster than this, Mr. Betz suggested a two-step process of purchasing something less expensive initially to replace the construction wayfinding signs, such as signs with a temporary sticker logo, followed by the more extensive signage with the new logo sticker on it.

ACTION PLAN: Staff was instructed to move forward with permanent wayfinding signs to replace the temporary signs that are currently in place.

Old Business

- CSX Pedestrian Crossing Update. Mr. Betz stated that there is an approved plan and the City can go into an engineering contract with CSX, but there is no money to move forward. The City can wait for a while to implement the plan, but not indefinitely.

- Wayfinding Plan Update. The City intends to develop a wayfinding plan and branding update, and it includes routes, parking lots, attractions, stores, and business districts, among other things. Mr. Betz stated that he has met with all the regional partners involved – the Columbus Zoo, ODOT, City of Dublin, Liberty Township and Delaware County Engineer's Office. The zoo will work with ODOT and Dublin for some improvements along Riverside Drive, 315 and Hard Road. Route 23 (including at Home Road) and Interstate 71 will not have any additional changes due to all the construction already planned and any additional improvements would not be considered until after 2020-2022.

Mr. Betz and Ms. Canavan will be working on the branding issues. Mr. Betz feels it is important to utilize any new branding moving forward on the wayfinding plan. He will be able to develop a wayfinding timeline after the branding timeline is set. There is some need to identify public parking areas differently and better and this could be done in the interim.

Ms. Canavan stated that she hopes the majority of the branding will be done in 2018. The last quarter of 2017 will be dedicated to the research part of it and 2018 will be the actual discovery and planning with the final launch anticipated in the first quarter of 2019. It has been about 12-13 years since the last branding was done.

New Business

The Mayor has requested the Zoning Code Diagnostic Committee to look at incorporating electric car charging stations into the zoning code as well as bike racks, in an effort to encourage in the Code those things we would like to have in the Keep Powell Moving Plan. Councilman Bennehoof also requested the Committee consider form based zoning code.

Adjournment - Having no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.