

City of Park Hills Infrastructure Committee Minutes from Thursday, February 9, 2023 Meeting

Meeting was held at Noon in Council Chambers (1106 Amsterdam Road)

Committee Members Present

- Council Member Joe Shields (Chair)
- Council Member Steve Elkins (Co-Chair)
- Council Member Pam Spoor
- Committee Member Greg Claypole
- Committee Member Jim Jenkins

Others Present

- Mayor Kathy Zembrodt
- Public Works Director Dan VonHandorf

1. Project Updates

• St. Joseph Lane sidewalk

The Committee discussed the status of this project, which has been held up due to issues relating to the state grant. ***Update: At the 2.13.23 business meeting of City Council, Council awarded the sidewalk construction project to TMS Construction for a total of \$247,351. This information has been forwarded to the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet as per the protocol of the bid. No further information – including the start and end dates – is available as of this writing.***

• Amsterdam Road

Amsterdam Road was deeded to the City by Kenton County in 2005. The fix is best viewed as two separate projects:

- A deep fix is required from Sleep Hollow Road to Hillcrest. The cost is estimated at \$2.79 million. Particular attention needs to be paid to the intersection of Sleepy Hollow and Amsterdam. The payment strategy is to seek a grant from the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Council of Governments. This grant requires a 30% match by Park Hills, which is approximately \$80,700; the City has already set aside this funding. Our submission is due in June and we should know the answer by fall 2023.
- Amsterdam from Hillcrest to Trolley Park will get a mill and overlay.

• Brent Spence Bridge

Discussion about this project centered on how best to protect the City – in terms of damage to roadways and infrastructure as well as safety – once this project gets underway. The assumption is that the City will see an increase – perhaps a dramatic increase – in traffic during construction. It was agreed the City would get involved immediately to protect its interests in terms of the traffic plan and funding for resulting damage to roads. Mr. Shields, Mr. Elkins and Mr. Claypole will lead this effort. ***Update: On 2.26.23, Mr. Shields, Mr. Claypole and Mr. VonHandorf attended a virtual meeting with Stacey Hans, the Brent Spence Bridge project manager (she is located at the KYTC 6th District office). We explained what our goals were, and learned that the RFP for the project was distributed on 2.24.23 with the winning bid chosen in July 2023. Decisions regarding traffic maintenance and incident management – which most directly impact the City – likely won't be "topics of discussion" until late 2024 or early 2025. We will discuss our next steps at the March Infrastructure Committee meeting.***

- **Emerson Road**

Additional work to address a drainage issue is needed on Emerson, but the exact fix was not determined. We will take this up at the March meeting.

- **Cleveland Road**

The goal of this work is to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety on Cleveland. This is being accomplished by restricting parking in certain areas of Cleveland and removing the curb treatment, which widens the road by 12 inches. The curb treatment is being done in phase. The next phase was discussed, but no decisions were made. We will take this up at the March meeting.

2. Road maintenance list

Mayor Zembrodt provided a list that illustrates the relative conditions of the City roads, the history of what roads have been fixed and when and an overview of upcoming needs. All agreed this list needs to be updated so the Committee can better advise the Mayor on the road priorities for FY23-24.

3. Budgeting

- **Budgeting overview**

- City revenues that can be used for road improvements are as follows:
 - Road tax: This tax brings in approximately \$350,000 each year.
 - Municipal Road Fund: This state fund varies each year in the amount it provides to the City for roads. For budgeting purposes, we are assuming that amount, provided in a lump sum, will be \$70,000 for FY23-24.
 - ...So, for FY23-24, we will have \$420,000 in road funding.
- City outlays
 - The City pays \$300,000 each year for service on its road bond. This bond is due in October of 2025 but is on schedule to be paid off early.
- That leaves \$120,000 in discretionary road funding for FY23-24.

- **FY23-24 road budget possibilities**

The Committee discussed the following budget possibilities for FY23-24, but no decisions have been made.

- Cleveland: \$30,000 for the next 400-feet of curb removal.
- Emerson: \$25,000 to alleviate drainage issue cited above.
- Park Road: Fix to the west side of the divided entry off Amsterdam. Budget TBD.
- Exter to Irish Rose: This fix was discussed but more detail is needed.

The next meeting of the Infrastructure Committee is scheduled for Thursday, March 9 at Noon in Council Chambers. The agenda will be distributed by Tuesday, March 7.