

A public meeting was held in the Tyrone Borough Conference room on 9/23/10 at 7 PM to present information and answer questions the affected residents may have regarding the Washington Avenue Streetscape. The presentation was given by:

Dave Lybarger, Kristen Swan and John Daily from PDOT

John Cornell and Pat Stoner from the Borough

Elizabeth Heggi and Kenneth Szala from P. Joseph Lehman Engineers

Pat opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and giving an overview of the project. She introduced the presentation panel and then turned it over to Ken.

Ken began by pointing out the extents of the project on a large plan sheet that was displayed on the wall. Then Ken handed out an overview of the project for everyone (see attached). After reading the overview, Ken opened the meeting to Public comment. The following residents [with property numbers in parenthesis](#) made comments:

Jim Ramsay (24): He wanted to know if there would be grass between the curb and sidewalk. Ken said that there would not be grass. Jim asked about the corner of 5th street where the sidewalk width is restricted due to the property line. Could the owner be approached about giving right of way to allow more room there? Ken said that this issue had been looked at during the field view. It was discussed to provide a sharper radius to provide a wider sidewalk. Vehicle turning movements would need reviewed to ensure that buses or box trucks could still make the turn.

Viola Dollar (132): She asked if her historically accurate brick pavers would stay if she wanted them to? Ken deferred the question to John Daily. John explained where the historical district boundaries were and how historical elements were determined. The findings determined that brick pavers were not a historical element and therefore not required to remain. Ken noted to Viola that the bricks could be removed and placed on her property. Viola wanted that done.

Linda Daniels (112): She plans on having a retaining wall installed along her property and wanted to know if she should have it done prior to construction or after? Ken asked what type of wall she planned to build? Linda was not sure at this time. Ken suggested when she determines what type of wall to contact him and he could better decide when would be the best time to construct it.

Sid Garber (113): He wanted to know who is responsible if a retaining wall falls during construction. Ken stated that if the contractor during his construction knocks the wall down due to negligence, it will be his responsibility and cost to repair it.

Cummins McNitt (8): He wanted to know what happens if several months after the project a retaining wall shifts. Ken said that is really a legal issue then. Ken noted that there will be a video done prior to construction and afterwards to document the condition of the wall. Cummins also asked about if there would be grass along the curb line. Ken said there would not be grass proposed within the right of way.

J.J. Murphy (110): He wanted to know if any consideration had been given to using some type of solar lights for the streetscape lighting since electric rates are going up? Ken said that it was an idea that could be investigated. Pat Stoner mentioned that LED lights had been discussed.

Jason McBride (41): He wanted to know if the lateral valves would be reset. Ken stated that all valves affected by the project would be reset flush with the sidewalk. Jason also asked about having a "School

Bus Stop” sign installed at the intersection with 6th Street. Ken said that it would be looked into. Pat said the matter should be taken to Borough Council and she felt they would be in favor of such a sign.

Linda Daniels (112): She wanted to know how long the project would take to complete and where would the contractor start work. Ken stated that it was expected to start in April and should be completed in September or late fall barring any issues. Ken asked Dave if he agreed, to which Dave said it was expected to take only one construction season. Ken then explained that a probable construction sequence is developed by Lehman Engineers and is then given to the contractor. The contractor can follow the plan or prepare his own and present that to PDOT. As long as the contractor can demonstrate he can complete the project within the schedule PDOT will approve his plan. Dave added that if the contractor goes beyond the completion date stated in the contract the contractor is assessed penalties.

Jim Ramsay (24): He wanted to know if the project would replace any damaged utility poles. Ken stated the project would not do that but only poles affected by the work. If there is a pole in bad condition, the Borough should contact Penelec and make them aware of it. Kristen said that there is Utility clearance/coordination work done for this project which could address this also.

Sid Garber (113): He noted that some residents had installed new sidewalks recently. Now they are to be torn out. What happens if the project sidewalk cracks or has a problem after one year? Ken said that there is an inspector present on site at all times watching to ensure quality work and materials are done. While something could happen it is not expected that there would be a problem. There is also a final inspection done by the Borough and PDOT as well as a materials warranty provided by the contractor.

Pam Hillard (129): She stated she has hollow concrete steps setting on a concrete pad at her porch. She wanted to know if the pad has to be replaced by the project would the contractor just move her steps and put them back. Ken said that is probably what would happen. The contractor has to replace anything to original condition on private property.

Dave Nelson (134): He wanted to know if the valves would be reset. Ken stated they would be. He then stated there is a curb at the back of his sidewalk and wanted to know what would happen. Ken stated that every property would be a case by case situation. At this point, it was not known what would be done.

Sid Garber (113): He wanted to know what the grant covers. Ken said that anything affected by the project is covered. If there are improvements necessary on private property due to the project, then the resident will be asked to sign a right to entry form which allows the contractor to perform work on their property. This work is covered under the project.

There being no more questions, Ken asked each panel member if there was anything they wished to add. John, Dave, Kristen, and Elizabeth had nothing to add. John Cornell mentioned that a future meeting would be held in the spring when the plans were finalized and more was known about the construction sequence and such.

Kristen then asked Ken to give an overview of the right to entry form issue again.

Pat Stoner noted that the lighting would not be as bright as was done downtown. It would be residential in nature.

Next some open discussion ensued with the residents asking more questions.

Viola Dollar then asked about why there was no sidewalk shown at 3rd Street. Ken explained that on the west side there is really no room and the topography is prohibitive. In addition, there is nowhere for pedestrians to go. The plan is to end the sidewalk at a predetermined point and provide a crosswalk to the east side.

Jason McBride (41) asked about sealing the sidewalk. Ken said it is sealed during construction. As the resident is responsible for sidewalk maintenance though, it would not hurt to reseal it every so many years.

J.J. Murphy (110) asked if the issue of traffic during construction had been looked at. He wondered if a lane closure would be necessary. Ken said that a traffic control plan is being prepared. There are flaggers and signage proposes but no lane closures.

A female resident who did not identify herself asked if a traffic signal or stop sign could be put in along the project. She mentioned there has been a fatality already and drivers go too fast. Ken said that it was not part of this project. That is a concern that should be taken to Borough Council. They would need to talk to PDOT about having a traffic or signal study done. Kristen said that if PDOT is contacted about this, they would have the traffic unit look into it.

That was the last question. Ken thanked everyone for their input and for coming and the meeting ended