AA County Safe Routes to Schools - Waugh Chapel ES (2023-10-26 19:03 GMT-4) - Transcript

Attendees

Andrew Diehl, Ayden Cohen, Ayden Cohen's Presentation, Dave Moncrief, David Braun, Jason

Transcript

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Dave Moncrief: All right, we're gonna go ahead and get underway. I want to thank everyone for joining us this evening for the Anne Arundel County Department of Works virtual open public meeting or safe routes to school accessibility studies tonight focusing on watch Apple Elementary School. We have seen a fair bit of interest in this project. And specifically with the school. We received a lot of feedback via the parent surveys, which so far has been super helpful and we are happy to have everyone here to join us this evening to discuss this project further.

Dave Moncrief: Before we get too far. I want to introduce those on the County's project team who are here this evening including myself. My name is David Moncrief and I am standing in for Adam Greenstein. Who is the DPW project manager for the safe routes the school project. We are giving this presentation to 17 different schools this month and I agreed to fill in for Adam on some of those presentation's So briefly before we get started, I will introduce some of the groups that are represented on the county project team and then if applicable during the Q&A those individuals will introduce themselves before providing a response. So joining us this evening or representatives from the County Department of Public Works, including myself and the office Transportation as well as some senior members of the engineering team at Andrew County Department of Public Works.

Dave Moncrief: And representation from our DPW consultant team from Tool design. Also potentially joining us as the call proceeds are presentation representatives from Maryland State Highway Administration and potentially Anne Arundel County Public Schools. If you have any questions that may relate to them specifically.

Dave Moncrief: Now that we've gone over introductions. I just want to go over some of the goals for the meeting this evening. We are not planning seeing to discuss much in the way of location certificates. Use really the high-level goal for tonight is to cover process procedure and guidance for you to review and provide comment on the full safe routes to school study So to that end, please. Pay attention to the slide. You can find the full report for watch Apple Elementary at the link that's provided on the screen. go to the URL tinyurl.com slash srts County and all of the schools reports are provided there. You'll have to scroll down and click on watch Apple. I will also drop a link to the specific report in the chat in a few moments after we get going a little bit further.

Dave Moncrief: We do appreciate comments most importantly and probably the best way by comments. If not during this call A function is via writing an email to Adam Greenstein. His email address is provided

on the screen. We strongly encourage you that if possible when sending a written comment to Adam regarding your school that you take pictures take a screenshot of Google Maps provide graphics and

Dave Moncrief: very important that you also write out the full name of the school either in the subject of the email that you're sending to Adam and the body view subject or the body of the email and please write it out. We do have several schools that have the same acronym such as Wes or SES Etc. So it's helpful. If you write out the name of the school and that will help us most appropriately address you and response to your comment or question. We are officially accepting public comments on that will be included with the Q&A and comment response on this project until November 5th, which is about a week from today. And after the conclusion of receiving this comments within about a couple weeks. We will be posting a

Dave Moncrief: Full Q&A response on the same website It's the linkage info on the slide. That does not mean at that time that you cannot provide comments or concerns to add them. But it does mean that your comment or concern will not be included within the comment repository and the responses that go out as part of the study. We do welcome feedback after that point at any time, but for the purposes of the study, we do have cut off the

Dave Moncrief: This presentation is set up as a webinar so in webinar format. If you're not on the project team and you're coming from the community, you will be in view only mode which means you will remain muted with your cameras off for the duration of the presentation. But you can use the Q&A future which is the primary feature that we are using for feedback during this presentation. It isn't current buying encouraging you to do that throughout the presentation if you do have any comments so that when we get to the end we can have the most appropriate person address those to access the Q&A future if you're logging in via Google me on a web browser on a computer Etc. You can select The activities button is shown on the slide there. It's delineated with the orange arrow. It has a triangle square circle. Stacked on top of each other so you would click that button.

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Dave Moncrief: And then select Q&A and then ask a question. If you're joining using Google meet on mobile phone. The first thing you would do is select the three dots and then follow the same process, which is again select the activities button Triangle Square Circle. Select Q&A and then ask a question. If you have joined us by phone this evening, unfortunately, that means we can't share information with you via Q&A. And obviously you don't have the visual to come along with the Google meet. But you are encouraged to go to the County's project website and find Adam's contact information there for providing feedback. The website URL was also provided in correspondence that was sent out by aacps.

Dave Moncrief: All right.

Dave Moncrief: This meeting is being recorded. We want to make sure that folks who can't join us this evening can still participate in the process. Review the same information and get the same guidance on this project in case you're scheduled didn't align and it couldn't make So this audio video recording along with the transcript will be posted on the same website as soon as possible following this presentation. In addition to that again the full Q&A from this presentation in addition to any comments that are sent the email or by phone to Adam will be posted in a single repository at the conclusion of the project with responses to each comment or question as appropriate.

Dave Moncrief: If you do need translation services, There was no request made in advance of this presentation specifically for this presentation to be translated. So we do not have a translator here

tonight. But if you do require that service, feel free to reach out to Adam and we can provide that as necessary. With all that said I'm going to turn it over to Ayden Cohen. It was a project manager with our consultant total design to go through the remainder of our presentation. Thanks a

Ayden Cohen: Thanks, Welcome everyone to the virtual meeting tonight. We really appreciate you all taking time out of your busy evening to join us. The goal for tonight is to just give you an overview of the safe routes to school accessibility project and Orient you to the report. As Dave already mentioned we won't be reviewing specific information recommendations. It's just way too much detail to review but the full reports are posted on the County's website. We'll start with an overview of the project and Arundel County and Anne Arundel County Public Schools or partnering on safe routes to school accessibility studies at 17 schools across the county the schools for previously identified and move in and Arundel, which is the County's Transportation functional master plan and studies are being overseen by a project management team consisting of County State and School District Representatives.

Ayden Cohen: Between October 24th 2022 in February 8th of this year Consultants staff from my firm tool design conducted a one-day site visit to each school to observe arrival in dismissal and to assess existing walking advice being infrastructure. The studies focused on infrastructure within the school walk Zone, but also assessed other opportunities within the School attendance area to expand active transportation to school. The overall goal of the project is to improve safety and transportation choices for all residents.

Ayden Cohen: Watch apples report summarizes existing conditions and makes recommendations for added infrastructure education or encouragement programs to increase the number of children that could safely walk a ride bikes to school. It's based on a site visit that was conducted on October 27th 2022. Parent surveys were all so administered by the school district at the start of this calendar year to obtain parent reported travel most school and reported barriers to walking or bicycling. The report contains eight sections tonight's presentation will Orient you to the general content contained in each but to view the full report and provide input, please visit Anne Arundel County web page shown on the screen.

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Ayden Cohen: The school overview section defines the project study area fieldwork was conducted on roads within a half mile of the school and a dust level review was conducted on roads within a one mile radius of the school that fall within the School attendance area. The section of the report provides School attendance and enrollment information at the time of study which was provided by the school district. It describes the school location and layout and it provides an overview of how Walkers bicyclists school buses parent and staff Vehicles access the school grounds. The parent reported student travel modes and barriers sections summarizes key findings from the parent survey including parent reported distance from home to school. School Bus eligibility in use most common travel motor School ideal travel mode to school barriers to walking or biking to school and streets used to walk or bike to school.

Ayden Cohen: However, it is important to note that for most schools. The survey response rates represent a fraction of the student population. We acknowledge that they might not reflect the experiences and perspectives of all families. So this information was simply used to supplement information received during observations and from the school directly. For Waugh Chapel. We received 68 survey responses.

Ayden Cohen: The arrival and dismissal observation section provides an overview of arrival and dismissal operations as reported by the school a summary of General observations made by our team

and a summary of specific arrival and dismissal observations by each mode. This includes Walkers and buy school buses and parents driving. Our observations focused on behaviors conflicts in general counsel travel modes and inform how the various travel modes interact within The existing infrastructure conditions section provides maps in a brief description of existing sidewalks Mark crosswalks 88 compliant curb ramps existing plan or program on road bike facilities and Regional Trails Park trails and paths based on GIS data provided by the county at the start of the project this information serves as a baseline of sorts for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Ayden Cohen: The reports also summarize five years of Crash data to assess the total number of crashes within a one-mile radius of the school and how many of those involve pedestrians or bicyclists? The crash summary also includes the number of pedestrian and bicyclics crashes within the school walk Zone.

Ayden Cohen: The infrastructure recommendation section includes both a map to visualize the location and type of recommendation and a table that provides additional detail On the map recommendations within the school walk zone are identified by numbers and recommendations that fall outside of the school walk zone are identified by letters the map distinguishes between spot recommendations such as ones at a specific intersection or crossing and then segment recommendations such as sidewalks or corridors meeting speed management. It also color codes All recommendations in the plans aim to improve safety and accessibility for students to walk and Bike to School including measures to reduce vehicle speeds address conflicts between pedestrians or bicyclists and drivers and provide fully accessible sidewalks and Street Crossings as able the plan technology other projects within the study area, but the county will confirm the approach to implementing recommendations to ensure that they align with other projects as necessary.

Ayden Cohen: a quick orientation to the table map ID corresponds to the numbers or letters on the recommendations map in addition to defining the specific location of the recommendation the location column also describes possible significance such as whether it's inside the school zone or along a key student walking or bicycling group the key Roots were identified based on information received from school administration parent surveys and school observations. Facility type provides the general category of the recommendation such as sidewalk crosswalk car ramp Etc the issue and recommendation columns provide details on identified issues and specific treatment recommendations. Potential costs a student table reflect planning level construction costs is details related to construction can't be determined until the method of implementation for proposed improvements is confirmed. Time frame reflects General project feasibility or complexity that can help to implementation decisions.

Ayden Cohen: This is not indication of the County's plan time frame for implementation. Again, we've only provided just a snapshot of the recommendations table to view the full report provide input. Please visit the County's website which Dave has put in the chat.

Ayden Cohen: For some schools the accessibility study identified significant barriers the important would require additional study to identify appropriate measures in those instances an additional consideration slide was added to acknowledge the issue and suggests For Waugh chapelgate Drive presents such a barrier.

00:15:00

Ayden Cohen: Each school report also includes education encouragement and enforcement and evaluation recommendations to help the schools improve awareness and knowledge of safe practices

reinforce safe behaviors, encourage travel mode changes and establish a culture of walking and vice things Finally each report closes with an appendix containing photos that correspond with each recommendation map ID. These photos document the existing conditions which can help to explain the issue and recommendation.

Ayden Cohen: Following this meeting the county will finalize the prioritized list of recommendations. Prioritization will be based on an assessment of impact potential demand, which is how many people are likely And potential to benefit vulnerable populations as well as feasibility costs and Implementation timeline and funding source will be based on the type of recommendation. For example shorter term implementation may be more feasible for low cost or quick hit operations or maintenance recommendations such as signs pavement markings or vegetation trimming that have an existing dedicated funding stream. Longer term implementation is required for infrastructure projects such as new sidewalks that require funding from the County's Capital Improvement program Schedule for any action after studies are completed has yet to be determined.

Ayden Cohen: Again full reports are posted on the County's website information on how to provide input is included there and also provided on the screen. You've any general process questions. We can aim to answer them now. Please submit them using the Q&A function on your screen.

Dave Moncrief: And thank you So we did have a few people join us a few minutes after the presentation it started. I do want to encourage you that if you do have any questions or comments that you use the Q&A function to submit those Briefly again to do that you would click on the triangle square circle symbol located at the bottom right hand side of your screen and then click on. questions and answers and click on ask a question. And if you're on a mobile phone you would first have to click the three dots and then follow that same process. We have not received any Q&A thus far and I will leave it open for a few more minutes. before we conclude the call, I do want to encourage you that even if you don't provide any comments during the presentation that you do reach out to Adam with any specific.

Dave Moncrief: Comments or questions again has email address is provided on the screen. And when doing so, please again provide any specific information that you possibly can regarding intersection Road screenshot from Google Maps or picture Etc with any concerns specific to this school. Provide the school name within the subject line or the body the email if possible or if you just have a general comment and that wouldn't apply but please do so within the next week as we will be including the study and cutting off the official online for comments by November 5th for this project.

Dave Moncrief: I will leave the Q&A open for One more moment and then we will conclude. the presentation

Dave Moncrief: Thank you everyone and this is actually the last presentation as part of the series. So I think everyone for their interest and their participation in the study and I look forward to working with you soon.

Meeting ended after 00:19:42 👋 ✊