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

Attendees

Adam Greenstein, Andrew Diehl, Ayden Cohen, Ayden Cohen's Presentation

Transcript

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Adam Greenstein: Good evening, everyone. My name is Adam Greenstein. I'm a project manager with the Internal County Department of Public Works in the Bureau of Engineering managing the county's safe routes to schools.

Adam Greenstein: Types of goals. But different ways of going about those things more operations versus planning and then we have representatives from the county Dpw. Engineering consultant from tool design, We're hoping that folks from county, public schools will be able to join. We believe they might be here, late as depending on how long this meeting goes. Hopefully they'll be here, but if they aren't able to join in time or at all, since we believe there might have been some last-minute conflicts. We will forward any questions to them.

Adam Greenstein: Sure, they can provide you a direct answer. We were also hoping to have folks from the Maryland State Highway Administration since their partner in this project and provided grant funding to help get this project completed. There was an emergency earlier this evening with the representative who was helping to be here today, so they will not be able to join. But again any questions pertaining to the states involved into the project and moving forward, we'll make sure to get that to them so they can provide everyone a thorough and hopefully valuable response. The next slide, please.

Adam Greenstein: I wanted to go over some goals and housekeeping for this evening. The primary goal when it comes to the content for the presentation is that it won't cover anything location specific, unless we get a lot of feedback this evening on something, Our goal is really more processed related overall information on the project general issues around the school that might not be at a specific intersection or something like that. If something comes up, that's so persistent, we're happy to discuss it but otherwise we'll answer it offline. We want to keep this meeting high level and guide you through the review, process for the projects, you can share some feedback at other times. But if you're welcome to ask questions this evening and we'll get into how to do that in a minute. Anything it's a little bit more high level or general goals of the project. Next steps, funding things like that. You are welcome to send us comments using the contact information shown on your screen.

Adam Greenstein: That's my email address and phone number and you can get additional information that the County's Project website which is also on the Part of the screen there. If you do send me an email, We strongly recommend that you write out the full name of the school and the subject line include maps graphics. And as much of a detailed and specific description of the location in the issues, the more

detail we have the easier, it is to respond and provide feedback on the issue and to account for questions and comments and refining the recommendations. And what we want to do moving forward for the Jacobsville community. as far as housekeeping, this is a view only type of webinar format if you're not on the project team. So if you're joining us as a member of the community, you'll remain muted with your cameras off. But there is still plenty of opportunity to provide feedback this evening. You can use a Q&A feature to provide a written question. So as you can see here on the screen, there is

Adam Greenstein: A triangle square and a circle, which is the Activities button. if you're on a Web browser on a computer, you can find that on the bottom right part of your screen, click on that then click on Q&A and click Ask a Question. If you're on a mobile phone, select the three dots on your screen and then follow the same process with the Activities button. If you're dialing in, unfortunately, it's audio only. So there's no visual content that you can see this evening and you can't use the Q&A feature, but you can listen in and you can check back on the project Web page.

Adam Greenstein: Review the recording review the transcript, which I'll get into in just a minute and you can send us comments offline. So if you go to the project Web page, which was included, as a link in the communications sent out by Annamental County Public Schools Administration before, this whole series of virtual meetings began My contact information is on that, notice as well. You can go to the project page, use that information and send anything that comes to mind, but hopefully some of the spoken content this evening will be helpful as well.

Adam Greenstein: You're welcome to ask questions anonymously. If we'd love to know who you are but it's totally up to you when you get to the Q&A pod and you want to ask a question just like the checkbox to post anonymously. If you do have issues with the Q&A feature, we apologize. It has happened a couple of times of folks have had trouble with that, but we still as mentioned before our open to as many comments and questions as you'd like to provide by email or by a phone call, we apologize for any technical issues, focus experiences evening but we want to leave that line of communication open.

00:05:00

Adam Greenstein: This meeting is being recorded. So hopefully, within a couple of business days. After tonight's meeting, we will upload to the web page, the video recordings. You'll see my ugly face unfortunately and the faces and get the audio of others who are speaking. You'll see the slides as we show them in the recording. Tonight will also upload a PDF of the slides and then any written questions in the Q&A pod marked with the responses, Next. Copy of the transcript of the audio will all be posted online. We'll post responses to all questions and comments and a single file. After all the virtual public meetings are completed, which will include responses to every question from every school also including public comments and offline by email and phone outside of these meetings.

Adam Greenstein: Translation services are available by request or certainly happy to help if you need it. We're still determining a way to provide translated versions of all of this content after the meetings are done for folks who might need it. But if you're with us this evening and you do need translation services, you can use features in the meeting where we are. If you're on a Web browser, click the CC button inside the square, the bottom of your screen. And then there is a button that'll come up with either a gear with the word English next to it. Click on that to open the closed caption settings. Make sure that the language of the meeting is English which is a spoken language that we're using this evening and Translate a Captions and the language that you'd like to have used and captions will show up in your desired language on the bottom of your screen.

Adam Greenstein: If you're on a mobile device, select a three dots in the window then show captions and then hit the Under the caption Settings, you can select Live captions to be Ensure again, the language of the call is English, the spoken language this evening and then choose your desired translation language. If you have any other questions about translation services or any concerns, feel free to reach out using the contact information here.

Adam Greenstein: our goal is to end the meeting around 10 to 15 minutes before the top of the hour. So sometimes time no later than 7:45 or 750 depending on the nature of comments and questions in the A pod this evening, you may have seen in the notice that we had back-to-back meetings at 6 pm and 7 pm, so you would think they're an hour, but we're giving each community the same treatment. And so, for those who had the six pm meeting, we wanted to make sure that our team had a chance for a bio break stretch water, anything like that, to be prepared for you in the 7pm hour this evening. So we made those 45 to 15 minutes so every meeting as a result is given the same maximum duration. Unless something changes where we need a few extra minutes but we find that highly unlikely. So we'll close no later than 7:45 or 750 pm. We appreciate your flexibility. If you have concerns about the outreach process, feel free to let us know.

Adam Greenstein: With that being said, I'm going to turn it over to Ayden Cohen with tool design to share the remainder of tonight's presentation.

Ayden Cohen: Thanks Adam.

Ayden Cohen: I think.

Adam Greenstein: No problem. It did look like it moved to the slide with the overview of the project of the map. Not sure what you're seeing on your screen.

Ayden Cohen: Okay.

Adam Greenstein: If you do need a backup, I do have a copy of the presentation ready to go if you run into any technical issues.

Ayden Cohen: I think I've got it fixed now.

Adam Greenstein: Okay, just let me know if you run into any problems. If you have anything freezing on your end.

Ayden Cohen: All right, you're seeing the map right that we're good.

Adam Greenstein: All right, fantastic.

Ayden Cohen: Right. apologies for this slight technical difficulties everyone, but thank you for taking time out of your busy, evenings to join us. The goal for tonight is to give you an overview of the safer to school accessibility study for Jacobsville Elementary. As already mentioned we won't be reviewing specific information from the report, it's just way too much to review in one meeting but the full reports are posted on the county's website.

Ayden Cohen: Sorry, these notes are not.

Ayden Cohen: Move to the next slide. We'll start with an overview of the project.

Ayden Cohen: Do you have a backup of the slides? Okay.

Adam Greenstein: Yeah, give me just one second, I'll pull them up. All right, to see you running into those issues. No problem.

Ayden Cohen: Yeah.

00:10:00

Adam Greenstein: It happens. appreciate everyone's patience from the community this evening, and from the project team, We'll get worked out. Somebody see if I can figure this out here.

Adam Greenstein: All Getting There. Just a sec.

Ayden Cohen: That's it. You can't get it. I think I've got it fixed on my end.

Adam Greenstein: Okay, I apologize about that. So you're back to the map slide of what we're seeing on this screen. And now you're on the report findings, you're going back and forth between those two slides.

Ayden Cohen: Okay, then it's working. It just was delayed my end.

Adam Greenstein: No problem.

Ayden Cohen: All right. Thanks We'll start with an overview of the project. Anne Arundel County and Anne, Arundel County Public Your partnering on safe routes to schools.

Ayden Cohen: Between October 24th of last year and February 8th of this year. Consultants staff. From my firm will design conducted a one-day site. Visit To observe school, arrival and dismissal into assess existing walking and bicycling 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: JACOBSVILLE reports summarizes existing conditions and makes recommendations for added infrastructure education or encouragement programs to increase the number of children that can safely walk or ride bikes to school. It's based on a site visit that we conducted on January 12th. And parent surveys were also administered by the school at the start of this calendar To obtain parent, reported travel modes 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 the Anne Arundel County Web page shown on the screen.

Ayden Cohen: The School Overview section defines this project, study area fieldwork was conducted on roads, within a half. Mile of the school. A desk level review was conducted on roads within a one-mile radius of the school that also fall within the school attendance area. This section of the report provides school, attendance and enrollment information at the time of study as provided, by the school, district It describes the location and layout and it provides an overview of how walkers bicyclists buses parent and staff vehicles access the school grounds.

Ayden Cohen: 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 and

use Most common travel school ideal travel mode, to school, barriers to walking, or biking to school and streets, used to walk or bike to school. However, it is important to note that for most schools, the survey response rates Just a fraction of the student population. We acknowledge that they may 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 jacobsville, we received 53 responses

Ayden Cohen: The Arrival in Dismissal Observation section, provides an overview of arrival and dismissal operations as reported by A summary of general observations made by our team, in a summary of specific arrival and dismissal observations, by each travel mode walkers and bicyclists school bus and parents driving were all accounted for in Our observations focused on behaviors conflicts, in general accounts of all travel modes and inform how the various travel modes function and interact within the existing infrastructure.

Ayden Cohen: The Existing Infrastructure. Conditions section provides maps and a brief description of existing sidewalks, mark crosswalks idiot, compliant curb rams and existing planned programmed on bike facilities. Regional park trails and pass 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. 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 involved pedestrians or bicyclists? The crash summary also includes the number of pedestrian and bicycle crashes within the school walk zone.

00:15:00

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 that are at specific intersections or crossings and then segment recommendations such as sidewalks or corridors needing 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 plans acknowledge 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 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 room. Key roots were identified based on information received from school administration parent, surveys in school observations. Facility type provides, the general category of the recommendation such as sidewalk crosswalk, program etc. The issue and recommendation, columns provide for details on Issues or in specific treatment recommendations. Potential costs listed in the table, reflect planning level construction costs as details related to construction, can't be determined until the method of implementation for proposed improvements is confirmed.

Ayden Cohen: Time frame reflects general project, feasibility or complexity that can help to inform implementation decisions. It's not an indication of the county's time frame for implementation. Again,

we've only provided just a snapshot of the recommendations table to view the full report and provide input as Adam has mentioned already. And I believe put in the chat, please view the county's website.

Ayden Cohen: for some schools, the accessibility study identified, significant barriers that while important would require additional study beyond the scope of this project to identify appropriate measures in those instances, an additional consideration slide was added to acknowledge the issue and then suggest further study For Jacobs Will Mountain Road presents. Such a barrier.

Ayden Cohen: Each school report also includes education encouragement 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 bicycling to school. 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 The prioritize list of recommendations prioritization will be based on an assessment of potential safety impact, potential demand, which is how many people are likely to benefit from it 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, a shorter term implementation may be a 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 Projects such as new sidewalks that require funding from the county's capital improvement program Schedule for any actions. After studies are completed has yet to be determined.

Ayden Cohen: full reports are posted on the county's website information on how to provide input is included there and also provided on the screen. But if any general process questions, we can aim to answer them. please submit them using the Q&A function, provided on your screen.

Adam Greenstein: Thanks so much Aiden. I don't see anything in the Q&A pod for the moment did want to thank you for the presentation and support from Office of Transportation. This evening. What I wanted to do is in case folks wanted to chew on this a little bit or have some thoughts will leave the Q&A pot open until about 7:25 pm. Don't want to take away any opportunities for folks to ask questions or provide comments this evening so we can talk about them. But again as we've mentioned multiple times, the line of communication is open outside of these meetings as much as possible. So you can submit questions and comments to my email, using my phone number. We can get in touch with the right person and provide a response in writing with as much details we can. On the wall over here, we'll leave the Q&A pod open for another two minutes. And if we don't see any entries in the Q&A pod, by that I am Wooliger and for the evening

00:20:00

Adam Greenstein: Just another manager. So again, we'll leave the pod and the meeting open until 7:25 pm. At that point, there's no questions in the pod will adjourn. Just another minute or so.

Adam Greenstein: It is 725. I still don't see any questions but again feel free to think on this. Send us any questions or comments to the email address or phone number on the screen at any time, we'll be happy to answer them and we'll provide all this information including responses to those questions on the county Project Web page at that link, Sean on the screen in the coming weeks and we appreciate the

community's participation in the project. I appreciate the time from the members of the project team from Aiden and Andrew here and we will follow up soon. Keep an eye on that project Web page for more info. Have a good evening, everybody.

Meeting ended after 00:22:44 👋 ✊🏿