

AA County Safe Routes to Schools - Four Seasons ES (2023-10-17 19:04 GMT-4) - Transcript

Attendees

Ayden Cohen, Ayden Cohen's Presentation, Dave Moncrief, Tanya Asman

Transcript

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Dave Moncrief: Alright, we're gonna go ahead and get started. I want to thank everyone for joining us today for the annual County Department of Virtual open, public meeting or safe routes to school accessibility studies. Tonight coaching on Four Seasons Elementary School.

Dave Moncrief: We have had a fair bit of interest in this project. On this particular school. We received higher than average feedback from the parents. So I am super excited that we have this opportunity to present you tonight before we get too far. I want to introduce myself and those on the county's project team that are joining us tonight. My name is David Moncrief. I am standing in for Adam, Greenstein who is the Dtw project manager for the Safe Routes to school project. We are doing 17 of these schools this month projects, across the county. And I gave Adam, a few of the nights off by filling in Forum, on a couple of these presentation.

Dave Moncrief: So briefly joining us tonight, our presentation from Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works, Office Transportation and a member from the Dpw Team Tool Design also potentially joining us as we continue through the presentation is somebody from Amarillo County Public Schools, they aren't quite on yet but we are hopeful that they will join.

Dave Moncrief: In addition to the introductions, I want to go over some of the goals This evening's meeting which are not showing the slide, but just a couple of items we are not planning this evening to discuss much in the way of location specific issues. Regards to this study, Really the goal tonight is to cover high level issues procedure process and guidance for you to review and access the study and provide feedback. So our goal is to guide everyone through that process and make sure we get as much input as possible to help the county make decisions on how to move forward with potential improvements for transportation walkability and bikes at this school.

Dave Moncrief: most importantly, as far as feedback goes, you can send comments to Adam the email. His email is on the screen. You are welcome to call him as well, but the most efficient and easiest way for us to collect and respond. The feedback is via email. We strongly encourage you that if possible when you send those comment speed email to ADAM at the email address on the screen that your questions include maps graphics and that you write out the full school name, either in the subject line, or in the body of the email. And if you are referring to a particular street, please also put that in there in the segment. Again, Google Maps is great for this. If you can take a snapshot of it or just walk the area and take a picture, it's very helpful.

Dave Moncrief: We are accepting public comments on this study until November 5th which is about a week and a half after the series of presentation's that we're doing to the 17 schools included this year, but that does not mean the lines of communications cease to exist at that point. It just means that we will not be formally including the comments after that time in the public response and the repository that's going to get posted on the website. feel free to reach out to Adam after that point but preferable before so that we can't include your comment in A few housekeeping items. This meeting is set up at the webinar format. So if you're not, a member of the project team and you're coming from the community, you are in view. Only mode which means you will remain muted with your cameras off.

Dave Moncrief: But you can use the Q&A feature, which is the primary function. We will utilize for this meeting to provide feedback. If you're logging into Google meet on a Web browser on a computer, you can use the Activities button, you can see a screenshot of that button in the middle of the screen there. It's the Triangle Square circle. That is at the bottom right hand side of your screen, you would click on that and then select Q&A and then click Ask a Question. if you're using Google Meet on mobile phone, select the three dots on your screen, then the Activities button, and then, Also select Q&A and ask the question.

Dave Moncrief: If you have dialed in by phone or unfortunately, that means we can't share information with you, visually obviously. And the Q&A future is not available to you via Google Meet but again. Adam Greenstein's. Contact information is both counted on the county website and was provided in the notification that was sent out by and around county public schools.

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Dave Moncrief: All right. This meeting is being recorded. We want to make sure that folks who can't join us evening can still participate in the Review this information and get to seeing guidance in case they're scheduled didn't work out for them. So this audio video recording in addition to the transcript as well as a summary of the Q&A as part of this meeting, as well as Q&A collected. After this meeting will be posted to the project Web page within about a week of the conclusion of the study.

Dave Moncrief: That will include any questions that are not directly answered by the team that are in the Q&A pod. After this meeting. So if you do need translation services they are available by request. We're still determining how we're going to get that done, but if you have a specific need feel free to reach out to Adam and if you have any specific requests will get that address for you. If we need to translate a certain document or particular meeting, we can have that done with all that said, I'm going to turn it over to Ayden Lambert. It was a project manager with our consultant tool design to go through the remainder of our presentation, this evening.

Ayden Cohen: Thanks Welcome to the Four Seasons virtual meeting. We really appreciate you all taking time. Out of your busy. Evenings to join us. The golf for tonight is to give you an overview of the Safe Routes to School Accessibility project and orient you to the report. As already mentioned, we won't be reviewing specific information recommendations. It's just too much detail to review in one meeting but for 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 were previously identified and moving in Arundel, 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 in February 8th, 2023, consultants staff. From my firm school design. Conducted a one-day site visit each school, to observe school, arrival, and dismissal into

assassin's, assisting walking and bicycling infrastructure. The studies focus on infrastructure within the school walk zone, but also assess 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. Four Seasons report summarizes existing conditions and makes recommendations for added infrastructure education or encouragement programs to increase the number of children that could safely walk or ride bikes to school. It's based on a site, visit conducted on October 25th 2022. Parent surveys were all so administered by the school district at the start of this year to obtain reported travel. Most to school and reported barriers to walking or bicycling. The report contains eight sections.

Ayden Cohen: 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. The School Overview section defines the project study area. Fieldwork was conducted on rows within a half, mile of the school. The desk level review was conducted on roads within a one mile radius of the school that fall within the school attendance area. The session report also provides school attendance and enrollment information at the time of study as provided by the school, district The section describes the school location and layout. And then provides an overview of how walkers bicyclists school, buses parent and staff vehicles access the school grounds. the parent reported student travel modes and barrier sections summarizes key findings from the parent survey, including parent, reported distance from home to school,

Ayden Cohen: School bus eligibility and use most common travel modes to school ideal travel motor school, barriers to walking, your biking to school and streets used to walk or bike to school. However, it is important to know that for most schools. The survey response rates represent 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 four seasons, we received 79 total survey responses

Ayden Cohen: The Arrival Dismissal Observation section provides an overview of arrival dismissal operations is reported by A summary of general observations made by our team and a summary of specific arrival and dismissal observations by each travel mode. This includes walking and biking school, bus and parents driving Our observations focused on behaviors conflicts, in general, counsel travel modes and inform how the various travel modes function and interact within the existing infrastructure.

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Ayden Cohen: The Existing Infrastructure. Conditions section provides maps in a brief description of existing sidewalks, Mark crosswalks ADA compliance programs, and existing plan or programmed, on-road, bike facilities, regional t 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 source 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 bicycles 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 school. Walk zone, identified by letters. The math distinguishes between spot recommendations such as ones

that are specific intersection or crossing and segment recommendations such as sidewalks or corridors needing speed management. It also color codes them. All recommendations in the plans, aim to improve safety and accessibility for students to walk in bicycle 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 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 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 route. Key routes were identified based on information received from the school administration, parent, surveys and school observations. Facility type provides the general category, the recommendations such as sidewalk crosswalk, curb ramp, etc. The issue and recommendation, columns, provide details on identified issues and specific treatment recommendations. Potential costs listed in the table, reflect planning level construction costs as details related to construction campaign determinant 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: It's not an indication of the county's Time frame for implementation. Again, we've only provided a snapshot of the recommendations table to view the full report and provide input. Please, visit 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 suggests for their study for four seasons. Strawberry lakeway Such a barrier 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 school.

Ayden Cohen: Finally, each report closes with an appendix containing photos that correspond with each recommendation. These photos document. The existing conditions which can help to explain the issue and recommendation.

Ayden Cohen: Following this meeting, the county will prioritize list of recommendations prioritization will be based on an assessment of potential demand. And To benefit vulnerable populations as well as project 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 Projects such as new sidewalks. They require funding from the county's capital improvement program Schedule for any actions. After studies are completed has yet to be determined.

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

Dave Moncrief: Thank you, So we are gonna leave open the Q&A function for another minute or two, we don't have large participation on this call but we want to provide the opportunity for anybody that is listening to provide any questions or comments in the next couple of minutes. I would like to stress that the most important part of this project is that we gather data from individuals within the communities. And those that experience, the walking and biking, conditions surrounding these schools throughout the year. we do our best utilizing the tools that we used for this study, but the consultant visit was a snapshot, a single day and the parent surveys. While we reach out to everybody does not include obviously the views of every parent or walker for this school. So it is critically important that if you have a concern or

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Dave Moncrief: And provide any additional comment to improve upon the study, as it stands today, that you reach out to Adam, the email as provided on the screen there. And that you take this opportunity to influence the future for walkability of this school. with A open for one more minute and then conclude the meeting.

Dave Moncrief: We have not received any more questions so we will be concluding me. It's time. Thank you for joining us this evening and we'll see in the future.

Tanya Asman: Thank you.

Meeting ended after 00:16:58 🙌👋