

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

Attendees

Andrew Diehl, Ayden Cohen, Ayden Cohen's Presentation, Dave Moncrief, Eric Tabacek, Erik Engblom, Olivia Ceccarelli, Tavon Hawkins

Transcript

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Dave Moncrief: Go ahead and get this underway. I do want to thank everyone for joining us today. For the Anne Arundel County Department of Virtual Open Public Meeting For safe, routes to schools study. Tonight focusing on Richard Henry, Lee Elementary School. We have seen a fair bit of interest in this project, receive some feedback for the school, which has been super helpful so far. And we are happy to have everyone here to join us today evening. Before we do get too far, I do want to introduce myself. My name is David Moncrief. I am standing in for Adam Greenstein who's the Dtw project manager for the safe routes to schools? S are giving this presentation to 17 different school this month and I agreed to Helen for Adam on some of those presentation's. So briefly, what I'm going to do is introduce the groups that are represented here this evening.

Dave Moncrief: And then when we get to our Q&A, if there is a specific question that can be addressed by one of those representatives most appropriately, then they can introduce themselves. But I do want to get this presentation underway a little bit more quickly since we have some housekeeping items and there's a lot to go over Joining us tonight. Our personnel from other divisions within Anne Arundel, County Department of Public Works, including staff from the office transportation. There are also members of the Dpw consultant team from Tool Design. And from Maryland, State Highway Administration. Last but not least, and one of the most important partners and be able to get this study, completed is Andrew County Public Schools. joining us from Anne Arundel, County Public Health, Schools, or personnel, from Anne Arundel, County, Public Schools, Transportation,

Dave Moncrief: In addition to our introductions, we just want to go over a few of the goals for the meeting which are not shown here. But we do have a couple things to go over. We are not planning to see me to discuss much in the way of location specific issues. Really to goal tonight is to cover high level issues, procedure process and guidance for you, to review the full safe routes to schools study, which can be found at the link that's shown on the screen and for you to be provided ways to provide feedback. So we're just guiding everyone through the process to make sure we get as much input as possible to help county make decisions on how we move forward with improvements. You are encouraged to send comments directly to Adam Greenstein. His contact information is on the screen. You can also call Adam if it's preferable for you. But the primary way we'd like to see comments is be email.

Dave Moncrief: and when you send emails, we struggling encourage you that if possible to include photos maps graphics, And also to write out the full school name and either the subject line, or in the

body of an email. There are a lot of schools in Enroll County and as I said before, we are doing this for 17 schools, as part of this study. So we want to make sure that if you have a concern or a specific area that needs to be addressed that we are doing so and By providing a specific information as possible. That will help us.

Dave Moncrief: Specifically on those comments, we're officially accepting public comments to be included. As part of this study until November 5th, which is about a week and a half. After the series of meetings ends later this month, But after that date, it doesn't mean that the line of communication with Adam poses between the county and the communities. You can provide common after that's that point. It just won't be officially recorded and the comment and responses that will go out as part of this communication from this study.

Dave Moncrief: From there, I want to go over a few housekeeping items for the evening. This is set up as a 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. But you can use the Q&A future, which is a primary function for providing feedback in this meeting. So if you're logging in via Google meet on a web browser and a computer, etc, you can use the Activities button which is shown on the screen here. It kind of looks like a triangle with a square and a circle. That's at the bottom right hand side of your screen and you'll click on that. Then select a Q&A. And then you can click on Ask a question. If you're using Google Meet on mobile phone, you'll first have to select the three dots. Then select Q&A and then click Ask a Question.

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Dave Moncrief: If you are joining us by phone, unfortunately we can't share our visual information with you tonight, but Adam's contact information is available on the website if you want to reach out to him directly.

Dave Moncrief: All right, we are collecting throughout the presentation. So if you have a specific question, you don't have to wait to the end to type in a question. That'll help us most appropriately identify who should be answering your question? If you do have one or comment if you have one, it's appreciated, you do it throughout the presentation? This meeting, as I mentioned before, is being recorded, we want to make sure folks who can't join this evening and still participate in the process, review the information and get the same guidance in case they're scheduled and work for them to be able to be here. So, the audio video recording from this meeting along with a transcript and Q&A. In addition, to any questions that may or may not be answered as part of the Q&A this evening, we'll be posted the website within about a week. We just need to do some cleanup on the files and then they'll be posted to what age?

Dave Moncrief: If you do need translation services they are available by request or determining how to get that done most efficiently and specifically for any individual that may need it. feel free to reach out to Adam if you need it and if you need that, we'll be happy to help. With all that being said, I'm going to turn over the presentation to Ayden Lambert. Who's a project manager with our consultant tool design to go through the remainder of our presentation, this evening.

Ayden Cohen: Thanks Dave.

Ayden Cohen: Welcome to the Richard Henry, Lee Virtual meeting, we really appreciate you guys taking time out of your busy evening to join us. The goal for tonight's meeting is to give you an overview of the safer to School accessibility project and orient you to Richard Henry Lee's report. As already mentioned,

we won't be reviewing specific information and recommendations, it's just too much detail to review but 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 are partnering on safe, routes to schools accessibility studies at 17 schools across the county. The schools were previously identified and move in Arundel. The county's transportation functional master. Plan in studies are being overseen by a project management team. Consisting of county state, and school district representatives,

Ayden Cohen: Between October 24th 2022 and February 8th. 2023 consultants staff from my firm tool. Design, conducted a one-day site visit To observe school, arrival and dismissal into assess existing walking and bicycling infrastructure. The studies focus 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. Richard Henry Lee's report 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 off a site. Visit conducted on December 5th, 2022.

Ayden Cohen: And parent surveys were also administered by the school district at the start of this calendar year to obtain Reported travel modes to school and reported barriers to walking in our 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. As we've already mentioned, please visit the Anne Arundel County Web page shown on the screen.

Ayden Cohen: The School Overview section defines the project study area fieldwork was conducted on roads, within a half. Mile of the school, a desk level review was conducted on rose within a one mile radius of the school that fall within the school attendance area, The section provides school attendance and enrollment information at the time of study as provided by the school, district The section also describes the school location and layout and 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 mode to school ideal travel mode. To school, barriers to walking, or biking to school 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 this might not reflect the experience is in perspectives of all families. So, this information was simply used to supplement information, received during observations, and from the school directly for Richard, Henry Lee, we received 15 survey responses,

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Ayden Cohen: The Dismissal Observation section provides an overview of arrival and dismissal operations as 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 walkers and bicyclists school, buses and parents driving Our observations focused on behaviors conflicts and 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 Mark crosswalks ADA compliant curb ramps and existing plan or programmed, on-road bike

facilities, regional trails 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 swords for pedestrian and bicycle facilities. The report also summarizes 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 are bicyclists. The crash summary also includes the number of pedestrian and bicyclists 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 the school. Walk zone are identified by letters. The map distinguishes between spot recommendations such as a specific intersection acrossing and segment recommendations such as sidewalks or porters needing speed management. It also color codes recommendations by type of recommendation. All recommendations in the plans, aim to improve safety and accessibility for students to walk on 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

Ayden Cohen: As able the plans acknowledge all the 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. A quick orientation to the table. Map id corresponds to the number of letters on the recommendations map. In addition to defining, the specific location of the recommendations, 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. Keywords for 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, curb, grant, etc. The issue and recommendation, columns, provide details on identified issues and specific treatment recommendations.

Ayden Cohen: Potential costs listed in the table for planning level construction costs is details related to construction can be determined until the method of implementation her proposed improvements is confirmed. Time frame, reflects general project, feasibility or complexity. That can help to inform implementation decisions. It's not 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. for some schools, the identified, significant barriers that while important would require additional study beyond the scope of this project, to identify the appropriate measures in this instances, an additional consideration slide was added to acknowledge the issue and suggest further study for Richard Henry Lee Crane Highway presents such barrier

Ayden Cohen: Each school report also includes education encouragement enforcement and evaluation recommendations to help the school Awareness and knowledge of safe practices, reinforce safe behaviors, encourage travel mode changes, and establish a culture of walking and bicycling to school.

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

Ayden Cohen: Following this meeting, the county will prioritize lists of recommendations. Prioritization will be based on an assessment of potential safety impact, potential demand, which is how many people are likely to benefit and the 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 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.

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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. But if you have any general process questions, we can aim to answer them. Now please submit them using the Q&A function, provided on your screen.

Dave Moncrief: Thank you, den. And I will mention that the Q&A function has been open and will continue to be open for the next couple of minutes. We have not received any Q&A yet, but if we do receive any in the next couple of minutes, we're happy to address it. again, as part of this study, we implemented an addition to the training that's ongoing in the schools, several vectors for collecting data, and those included the site visits, parent surveys, teacher surveys and then input from The community, the most important of that of which is input from the community because you live there and see what happens in the community day to day as your children travel to and from elementary school. So you are encouraged either through the Q&A or by reaching out directly to Adam

Dave Moncrief: his email address as posted on the screen to provide any specific feedback that you can. And we look forward Talking to you.

Dave Moncrief: so, I'm going to leave the A open for At least two more minutes. And then if we don't receive any questions, then we will end the meeting. But we do appreciate you being on the cold night.

Dave Moncrief: We haven't received any queue A questions or comments through the Q&A function. So we are going to end the meeting at this time. We appreciate your time. Thank you.

Meeting ended after 00:17:59 🙌👋