

AA County Safe Routes to School - Georgetown East ES (2023-10-05 18:02 GMT-4) - Transcript

Attendees

Ayden Cohen, Ayden Cohen's Presentation, Daniel Allen, Dave Moncrief, David Braun, Eric Leshinsky, Molly Porter

Transcript

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Dave Moncrief: So alright, we're gonna go ahead and get our way this evening. I wanted to thank everyone for joining us today for the Anne Arundel County Department of Virtual Open Public safe routes to school, accessibility studies. Tonight focusing on Georgetown East.

Dave Moncrief: Before we get too far. I did want to introduce those on the county's project team. We're here this evening. My name is David Moncrief. I am standing in for Adam Greenstein who is the Dtw The Safe Routes to 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 to give them a few evenings with his family. So what I'm going to do is introduce the groups that represented here this evening. and then when we get to our Q&A, after tonight's presentation, folks will have a chance to introduce themselves by name and the group that they represent, But I did want to get the presentation on our A little bit more quickly since we have some housekeeping items as well.

Dave Moncrief: Joining us tonight. Our personnel from other divisions with Anne Arundel, County Department of Public Works. A couple of folks within the Office of Transportation members of the Dpw consultant, team from Total Design. And from the Maryland State Highway Administration. So if there are any questions pertaining to the state's road network, the state has been part of this project and House helped fund the study as well. They've been a key partner and success of this project. And last but not least, joining us is Amarillo County Public Schools. Hopefully don't see them on quite yet. But hopefully, we'll join.

Dave Moncrief: Braun the narrow county public schools transportation team. There is one clarification there are personnel or from the narrow county public schools transportation team and there are personnel from the office transportation within the Department of Public Works with Nrel County. So there are two different entities who share similar goals but they have different operating functions day to day. And if there are specific questions that we need to clarify, who's on which team later on we can do. So

Dave Moncrief: All right. In addition to our introductions, we did want to go over some goals for the meeting which are not shown here, but we're gonna go over a couple of things. So this evening we're not planning on discussing much in the way of location specific issues about your schools. Unless there's something that comes up, that's so strong or is very specific to this school and there's a lot of feedback

about it and it would chase, we will attempt to address it. Really, The goal here tonight is to cover, high-level issues procedure process, and guidance for you, to review, the full accessibility study for, and the report that you can find at the link that's shown on the screen here. And also, for ways creed provide feedback.

Dave Moncrief: So we're just guiding everyone through the process to make sure we get as much input as possible to help the county make decisions on how to move forward with improvements for transportation for the students at Georgetown East.

Dave Moncrief: Photos maps graphics and to write out the full school name and the subject line. When you do, send in comments, that will help us to your specific issue. And to make sure that we're addressing what you're looking at. I said earlier, we do have 17 schools that we're addressing under the study and a lot of them have similar acronyms. So a lot of people parents use singular letters for the name of their school. We might have three schools that have a C as the first letter. So, if you could spell out the name of the school, your specific location, maybe take a snapshot of Google Maps. If it makes sense to do so, or take a photo of the issue that you're looking at when you're providing feedback feedback that is very helpful.

Dave Moncrief: We are officially accepting public comments for this project until November 5th, which is about a week and a half after the series of meetings ends later this month. But that doesn't mean that the line of communication between the county and the communities ends. At that point. There's always the opportunity for you to provide feedback after that, even if it's outside the period, that we're walking feedback for this study.

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Dave Moncrief: From there, I did want to go over a few housekeeping items for this evening. This meeting is set up as a webinar. so, if you're not a member of the project team and you're coming from the community, Here in view only mode which means you will remain muted with your cameras off. But you can use the Q&A future, which is the primary function that we're using during this meeting to collect feedback. If you're logging in via Google Meet, On a Web browser on a computer, you can use the Activities button which is shown on the slide here. It's the triangle square and circle shown in the middle of the slide. What you'll do is you'll go to the bottom right hand of your screen, click on that symbol. And then select Q&A. And then you can Ask a Question. If you're using Google Meet on a mobile phone, select a three dots on your screen, then the Activity buttons.

Dave Moncrief: those three shapes and then follow the rest of the process that was outlined previously. If you have dialed in by phone or unfortunately that means we can't share information with you that's visual and you can't use the Q&A future, but please feel free to reach out to Adam Greenstein via the information provided on the county Dpw website for this project.

Dave Moncrief: One more thing. If you are providing feedback tonight in this meeting, you can't do it. And honestly, there is an option for that, we would like the opportunity to address. People individually to understand what community members are providing feedback and where they're coming from and who they are. But if you do choose to post anonymously you can't do so. This meaning is being recorded. We want to make sure folks that can't join tonight can still participate in the process for review. Get the sign saying, guidance on this project and make sure that everybody has the opportunity to view this presentation in case, your schedule didn't work out. So, this audio video recording will be posted on the project website as soon as possible.

Dave Moncrief: After we have a little bit of time to make sure everything looks clean and the transcript is cleaned up because it's sometimes doesn't pick up the words quite perfectly. also to be posted will be the full recording. The questions and answers again the transcript and the audio. So for the questions that are not answered directly by team tonight that are in the Q&A pod, we will provide the written responses to those comments and questions in a single repository. For this project it's going to be on the project web page at a later date.

Dave Moncrief: If you do need translation services, they are available by requests. We're still determining how to get that done. So feel free to reach out to Adam if you need assistance with that. And we will determine the best way to serve you. With all the housekeeping items out of the way. I am going to turn it over to the dpw consultant from Total Design, Ayden Aiden is a project manager with our consultant and she will be going through the remainder of the presentation this evening.

Ayden Cohen: Thanks Thank you again, everyone for taking time out of your busy evening to welcome to the Georgetown East.

Ayden Cohen: Dave already mentioned as well. We won't be reviewing specific information recommendations, it's just way too much detail to go into right now. But the full reports are posted on the county's website. We'll start the presentation with an overview of the project. Anne Arundel County and Anne, Arundel County Public Schools, partnered on safe routes to school accessibility studies at 17 schools across the county. The schools were previously identified and move in around all, which is the county's Functional master, plan and studies are being overseen by a project management team. Consisting of county state, and school district representatives, Between August 24th, 2022 and February 8th of this year consultants which were staff from my firm, conducted, a one-day site, visit to observe school, arrival and dismissal, and to assess the existing walking, and basically infrastructure.

Ayden Cohen: The studies focused 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.

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Ayden Cohen: Georgetown East Safely walk or ride bikes to school? It's based off of a site visit that was conducted on February 1st of this year. Parent surveys were also distributed by the school district at the start of this calendar year to obtain Reported travel modes to school and reported barriers to walking or bicycling.

Ayden Cohen: The report contains eight sections. Tonight's presentation will orient you to the general content contained in each but to review the full report as we've already mentioned and provide input like Dave described earlier, 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 a Roads within a half mile of the school and then a dust global review with it was done on roads within a one-mile radius of the school that fought within the school attendance area. The section also provides school attendance and enrollment information at the time of study as provided by the school district, The school review section describes the school location and layout. And then finally provides an overview on how walkers bicycle Buses parent and staff vehicles access the school grounds.

Ayden Cohen: The parent reported Student Travel Modes and riers section summarizes. Key findings from the parent survey including parent, reported distance from home to School bus eligibility and use most common travel mode to school ideal travel mode, to school, barriers to walking, or biking to school, and then streets, use to walker bike to school. However, it is important to note that most schools serve the survey response represented just a fraction of the population. So 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. So, for Georgetown East,

Ayden Cohen: The val Dismissal sections 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 in dismissal observations, by each mode, which includes walkers and bicyclists school, buses, and parents driving our observations focused on behaviors conflicts. In general accounts of all travel modes and inform how the various travel most function and interact with the existing infrastructure.

Ayden Cohen: The Existing Infrastructure. Conditions section provides maps in a brief description of existing Mark crosswalks ADA compliant curb ramps, and existing plan or program, on-road bike facilities, 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 swords for pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Ayden Cohen: The report also summarizes, five years of crash data to assess. The total number of crashes, within 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 bicyclists crashes within the school walk zone.

Ayden Cohen: The Infrastructure Recommendation section includes both a map to visualize the location and type of recommendations and then a table that provides additional detail on the map recommendations within the school. Walk center 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 crossing or intersection. And then segment recommendations such as sidewalks or corridors needing speed management. It also called our codes recommendations Of the recommendations in the plans, aim to improve safety and accessibility for students to walk and 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

Ayden Cohen: 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 is necessary.

Ayden Cohen: A quick orientation to the table. First map ID, corresponds to the numbers or 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 around key routes were identified based on information received from school administration, parents surveys, and school observations. The facility type provides. The general category of the recommendation such as sidewalk crosswalk, curb ramp, etc.

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Ayden Cohen: 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 is details related to construction. Can't be determined until the method of implementation for proposed improvement is confirmed and then the time frame reflects general project, feasibility or complexity that can help to inform implementation decisions. This is not an indication of the county's plan Timeline 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 identify significant barriers that while important would require additional study beyond the scope of work, To identify appropriate measures in those instances and additional consideration slide was added to identify the issue and suggest further study.

Ayden Cohen: 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.

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 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 and potential to benefit vulnerable populations as well as feasibility cost and Implementation Timeline and funding source will be based on the type of recommendation. For example, a shorter term implementation, may be more feasible for low-cost or quick hit operations, or maintenance recommendations, such as signs pavement, markings or vegetation trimmings 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 Schedule for any actions. After studies are completed is to be discussed.

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 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 Ayden. I just would like to stress that parent feedback is one of the most critical components of this process in order to correctly, identify the critical issues that are impacting students at this school, as well as potentially identify the issues that need to be addressed most presently. So we are gonna open the floor to Q&A Briefly. I see attendance as late. So I'm going to open it up and see if we receive any questions. Again, you can utilize the symbol that's on the screen on your device, to get into the Q&A function and provide any questions. I'm going to open it up for one or two minutes and then if we don't receive any Q&A, then I will in the recording. Thank you.

Dave Moncrief: Okay, so I haven't seen any A questions. Come in or comments. I'm going to in the presentation. I thank everybody for the time this evening, and look forward to working with you in the future.

Dave Moncrief: 7 o'clock.

Ayden Cohen: Series 7.

Eric Leshinsky: Thanks.

Meeting ended after 00:19:44 🙌👥