

Meeting Minutes

Date 4/25/25

Attendees: Mayor Bill Koons, Chief Rizzo, Carrie Schloss, Rick Smith, John Wahl, John Buda

Mayor Koons reported:

1. he spoke with the village engineer regarding a culvert for the stream that runs into Southwyck that would enable a possible path between SRV park and Gurney elementary school. The Mayor will also contact First Energy regarding this same potential path.

2. his Zoom meeting with NOACA for both parties to better understand the current \$800,000 grant:

a. NOACA was clear that use of the grant funds must follow Federal trail/path guidelines (e.g. width, materials, obstruction clearing, drainage, etc.).

An effect of this could be that the only practical place considered so far on the discussed-to-date locations and meet Federal requirements may be along Bell Road east of Route 306/Chillicothe Rd. to Sun Ridge Lane (mostly along Kensington Green's Bell Rd. frontage). SRV funds or other sources of funding (e.g. grants) therefore might be necessary to build less intrusive paths (e.g. only 5 feet wide crushed gravel; i.e. not subject to Federal requirements) in other locations along Bell Road.

b. There is no imminent deadline to use the grant funds.

i. This suggests that the NOACA grant funds could be used for path preparation/construction at the same time as the repaving of Bell Road east of Route 306/Chillicothe Rd. currently planned for 2026. This would enable two projects (Bell repaving and path construction alongside and to Sun Ridge) to be coincident reducing inconvenience to drivers along this route. For example, the roadside ditch could be piped for the path around the same time as the repaving.

ii. An additional path section along Bell Road that could possibly use the NOACA grant funds (i.e. meet Federal requirements) might be under the power lines to Alderwood Trail. However, Rich Washington might say that both a path along Kensington Green and this latter short section could consume all of the current \$800,000 NOACA grant.

c. NOACA asked, "What are you connecting?" in regards to use of the grant funds for bike/pedestrian paths. The Mayor shared with NOACA that Gurney Elementary and the SRV park would be end points. This question is a consideration to keep in mind for possible use of the grant funds for a path along Bell Rd. in front of Kensington Green.

d. Manorbrook Drive could be a possible future phase for a path next to the road; after paths along Bell Rd. are constructed. Carrie expressed that on a benefit-per-resident basis, a neighborhood-specific path might not receive as much support village-wide.

Additional Park Access Location/s

There was discussion regarding creating access points to the western side of SRV park (e.g. Daisy Lane area) that could be in addition to or instead of paths along Bell Rd. west of the park; thus making the park more accessible to about one-third of SRV residents. There may be an existing narrow pathway between parcels. These options would need investigation.

Meetings for Bell Road Residents

The Mayor inviting residents along Bell Rd. opposite SRV park and up to Gurney's driveway to a meeting in the SRV park pavilion was discussed. The purpose is to brief the residents on what has been discussed about paths in these areas and what that might mean for them. It was determined to have two one-hour meetings; one for the residents directly across from the park and another for residents from the park up to Gurney. May 19th at 6pm and 7pm were selected for the meeting. The Mayor and Carrie agreed to work on the content of the invitation letter. He said he would inform Council and that these would be public meetings of the Safe Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Committee.

Seeking Additional Grants

Committee members are encouraged to individually research potential additional grants and provide findings to Carrie who can then share with the full committee. Carrie might be able to email a list of potential grant sources to committee members.

Bike to School Event May 16th

Carrie announced the May 16th Bike-to-School event starting at the East Washington Street Cleveland Clinic. The SRV Police Department will provide escorts. Committee members are encouraged to participate.

As recorded by John Buda