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CALUMET-RIDGE STREETSCAPE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING #2 SUMMARY

February 18, 2021 | videoconference | 4:00 pm

The purpose of Committee Meeting #3 was to review the draft final streetscape plan in preparation for the public meeting (anticipated to occur Mid-March). Due to the current health crisis, the meeting was conducted via Zoom videoconference. A packet containing the draft final concept materials was emailed to the committee in advance of the meeting.

The following participants attended this meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	CONSULTANT TEAM
Tom Vander Woude, Community Development, Town of Munster	 Jodi Mariano,
Bill Baker, Plan Commission Chair	Teska
Paul Rotatori, Resident, South Shore Trails Member	Associates
Ken Schoon, Town Council	 Heather
Anthony Christopher, Business Owner, Top Tier Nutrition	Faivre, Teska
Steve Tripenfeldas, Assistant Superintendent	Associates
Scott Milne, Business Owner	 Stacey
Don Erminger, Local Business, Strack & Van Til	Meekins,
Dan Straka, Sweet Tooth	Sam
Leann Mellon, Town President	Schwartz
Eman Ibrahim, NIRPC	Consulting
Rachel Branagan, local architect	



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The meeting agenda and presentation topics follow below:

- 1. Introductions, Project Goals + Scope Review
- 2. Community Outreach: Public meeting recap
- 3. Final Streetscape Plan Draft: Presentation
- 4. Implementation Costs + Strategies for Development
- 5. Next Steps: Public Meeting #2

Following the presentation, the Committee participated in a guided discussion focused on details of the streetscape plan and implementation.

CALUMET AVENUE

The group discussed details of the streetscape and the proposed traffic modifications.

- 1. North of Broadmoor Ave review median lengths and parking lot circulation for access at Clock Tower Plaza and Boston Market.
- 2. Review U-Turn movements and potential changes to Town policies.
- 3. The committee recognizes that due to some existing legal non-conforming uses (such as Johnny's Tap), some corridor properties require curb cuts that may be considered sub-optimal.

RIDGE ROAD

- 1. Review emergency vehicle access with Munster Police and Fire.
- 2. Review maintenance requirements with Public Works.
- 3. Review access at Jewel / Bank west of Calumet and south of Ridge. Participants commented that turning movements associated with the Ridge / Calumet intersection causes conflicts with these curb cuts.
- 4. Review proposed roadway taper and access to Commander Restaurant. Consider adding a turn lane.
- 5. Review proposed roadway taper and access to Dairy Queen. Consider relocating the taper towards the east to maintain access for Dairy Queen.
- 6. Multi use trail interface with potential new developments along the south side of Ridge Road. Many participants preferred the concept that requires future developments to set buildings back 5' from the edge of bike trail and to provide additional sidewalk adjacent to the trail. The sidewalk would provide separate walking space and a transition area between multi-use trail and business.



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IMPLEMENTATION

- 1. Participants reviewed the overall cost estimate and draft implementation priorities tables. Additional comments include:
 - a. Continue to work with the Lake Michigan Coastal Program towards obtaining grants for implementation. It was noted that the Coastal Program offers some construction related grants.
 - b. Consider prioritizing Ridge Road improvements in tandem with the station area development.

Next steps include the following:

- Public meeting. Present the draft final streetscape plan at a public meeting in March, date TBD.
- Prepare draft report for committee and Town Council review

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.