



**CITY OF NEWARK  
DELAWARE**

**Newark Transportation Improvement District Committee Meeting**

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, June 8, 2022, 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Hybrid Meeting – City Hall Council Chambers and Virtual via Teams

**Attendees**

<b><u>Committee Members</u></b>	
Newark Planning and Development	Mary Ellen Gray, AICP
Newark Planning and Development	Mike Fortner, AICP
DeIDOT	Sarah Coakley, AICP
WILMAPCO	Heather Dunigan
Newark Planning Commission	Alan Silverman
BikeNewark	Bob McBride
Downtown Newark Design Committee	Joe Charma, PE
District 5 Representative	Jim Jones
<b><u>Other Attendees</u></b>	
Newark Planning and Development	Renee Bensley
Newark Planning and Development	Josh Solge
Newark Planning and Development	Kaitlin Dinsmore
Newark Public Works and Water Resources	Mike Falkowski, PE
<b><u>Committee Support</u></b>	
AECOM	David Athey, PE
AECOM	Mayuresh Khare, AICP, PP

**Meeting Minutes**

- The meeting started at 1:30 pm. Attendees present at City Hall introduced themselves. David Athey read the names of the virtual attendees.
- Minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting were approved without exception.
- Sarah Coakley began her presentation with details regarding the Marrow Road Pathway. See meeting materials. Discussions about the shared use path had already been done but a right turn lane had been added for Marrows Road onto Route 273. Mike Falkowski noted the constraints with the new Honda parking lot but thought the schematic accurately depicted the conditions. Joe Charma asked why the sidewalk narrows. Sarah replied that a constant width would have necessitated additional pole relocations and impacted parking. Jim Jones observed that pole relocations is an on-going problem in Newark and initiatives to bury utilities are periodically mentioned. The Committee favorably reviewed the improvements.
- Sarah continued with South College Avenue and Park Place bicycle and intersection improvements focusing on a right turn lane onto East Park. This would include dedicated striping perpendicular to

the roadway. Heather Dunigan spoke as a resident and said the intersection is already difficult for pedestrians and is concerned about additional crossing time. Jim questioned the reference to right-turning vehicles southbound on College Avenue onto Delaware Avenue as Delaware Avenue is one way in the opposite direction. Bob McBride echoed Heather's concerns and said he thought the improvements were based more on traffic flow and create new vehicle and pedestrian hazards. Alan Silverman said that bike improvements were included with the Delaware Avenue reconstruction and questioned if more bike improvements should be proposed before the effect of the Delaware Avenue improvements is better known. David Athey spoke as resident and noted that the bike lane fizzles as riders approach Park Place from the south and asked if a delineated lane could be included with the right turn lane. Sarah replied that the intersection was too tight for both. The Committee was in favor of this recommendation only if pedestrian and bicyclist safety could be addressed perhaps with a high-visibility pedestrian crossing.

- Next, Sarah presented East Chestnut Hill Road and South Chapel Street Improvements. Renee asked how these improvements would be viewed since the intersection is not within the Newark city limits. Sarah replied that adjustments could be made accordingly in the fee schedule. Mike Falkowski asked why a pedestrian crossing at Kensington Lane was being proposed. Bob agreed and noted that there was already a crossing at the University Farm about a half mile to the north. Mike Falkowski said he thought the location was alright but Heather said she believed a crossing where a median exists would be better. Sarah said both options could be included and decided upon later. Joe observed that with all the additional pavement, a roundabout could potentially be placed instead. Heather said DeIDOT typically does not favor multi-lane roundabouts. The Committee was in favor of the recommendations.
- Sarah continued with the Possum Park Road and Paper Mill Road intersection improvements. Mike Falkowski noted that there are numerous other improvements proposed in the same general area but otherwise there was no discussion. The Committee was in favor of the recommendations.
- Sarah concluded her presentation with the Wyoming Road improvements initially focusing on the roundabout at the Chapel Street intersection. She described it as a "mini" roundabout. Alan asked about mountable curbs for fire trucks and school buses. Mike Falkowski inquired about potential conflicts between bikeways and traffic along the entire segment. Sarah replied that there'd be a 5 foot sidewalk and 8 foot path on both sides so conflicts should be minimal. Joe asked about the design year for bicycle usage and Sarah replied 2045. Alan asked if the costs for University property would be included in the TID. Sarah said it probably would. Heather said additional bus stops were likely to be proposed and the crosswalks would be useful. The Committee was in favor of the recommendations.
- Sarah said that the improvements as presented at this and prior meetings total approximately \$48 million but DeIDOT is still waiting on input from DTC. She said she will present multiple fee options regarding developers' share. Alan asked for a review of the initial ground rules as those discussions are undertaken. Mayuresh suggested discussing ways to handle varying contributions.
- There were no public comments.
- The meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.