Crozet Community Advisory Committee

The Crozet Library

Wednesday, February 15, 2017 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

CCAC Members Present: John Savage, Phil Best, David Stoner, John McKeon, Dean Eliason, Beth Bassett, Kostas Albertis, Jennie More, Kim, Mary Gallo, Ann Mallek, Mike Kunkel, James King

Citizens Present: Eric Wallace, Allie Pesch, Jim Duncan, Shaun Biod, Tom Loach, Ed McNew, Terri Miyamoto, Karen Davis, Chris Rowland

1. Agenda Review (David Stoner – CCAC Chair)
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Update on Jaunt Commuter Bus Plans (Chris Rowland, JAUNT – 15 min)

Brad Sheffield: Crozet Express. Chris Rowland will help out as Assistant Director.

-Scoping the Ride In: 45 minute from first pick-up to last drop off.

- West Side was the most dominant region (Old Trail, Gray Rock, Orchard Acres, off Jarman’s Gap Road).

- 2nd most popular was East Side (Highland, Western Ridge)

* Times 7:45 am and 8:15 am were the preferred arrival times in Charlottesville.
* UVA hospital was the most dominant destination location.
* 4:45, 5:15 and 5:45 were the preferred departure times from Charlottesville.
* Need community feedback on best locations…29 Express examples…

Within a shopping Center – Sense of Security, Abundance of Parking, May Compete for parking spaces, strong partnership with retail, can construct shelters on edge of parking lot.

* Designated location, low activity, designated purpose and parking spaces, needs good pedestrian connections, can construct larger shelters, rare, requires, long term planning.

Chris: Crozet Designated Park and Ride location right next to Bank of America

Several locations are proposed: Great Value Parking lot, Barnes lumber Yard, behind Dairy Queen, etc.

David Stoner: Perhaps a shared dual use location inside of Barnes Lumber Yard location.

Jennie More: Having a central location is ideal.

Ann Mallek: Are there lots of places to park at the Club House?

Phil Best: It’s difficult to turn a bus around in there.

Brad: the buses are 14 – 22 passenger commuter buses. It’s 3 feet longer than a JAUNT bus on a custom chassis.

Brad: Next steps…The buses are on order and will arrive in March. The federal funding is available now. We have bus shelters available. We need to establish a UVA partnership and county budget request. We need to engage property owners and we’ll need to discuss liability, risk, and then develop marketing and branding approach. Finally, we’ll prepare Park-n-Ride locations.

What residents can do is generate ideas about locations. Help us advocate for that. Chris Rowland’s contact information is: [chrisr@ridejaunt.org](mailto:chrisr@ridejaunt.org), (434) 296-3184. Set expectations of how frequently service runs. Interest in mid-day to Charlottesville. Interest from those on 12-hour shifts. Need to establish funding from UVA and county.

Phil Best: Will the buses have bike racks?

Brad: Yes, they are easy to install.

Ann Mallek: This community is great at advocating, so start talking to your neighbors.

Brad: Start thinking about strategic planning and use Kevin to help come up with a long term plan.

1. Transportation Priorities in Crozet (Kevin McDemott, Albemarle County – 60 min)

Kevin McDermott: Albemarle County Transportation Planner is here.

David Stoner: Kevin has offered to come out to get our ideas…

Kevin: See attachment.

The Rockfish Gap Turnpike: Sidewalks from Cory Farm to the Clover Lawn Village. That project has been funded and is in design review. In the next year or so, we’ll see movement on this project. Part of this project was intended to help get people across the road, but that was shot down unless there was a roundabout, which would cost 7.5 million dollars, which they didn’t get the funding for.

Public Comment: The design submitted, they looked at buying land at all four corners of the intersection; they didn’t look at storm water detention facility. Please look back into the roundabout before moving forward with the sidewalk.

Kevin: It’s good news that we didn’t get the grant, because we came up with a better solution…here is the new design. The idea is that right in front of Harris Teeter, we are going to put a mid-block pedestrian crossing. It’s a much lower cost project and can be done in conjunction with the sidewalk project. It should help reduce the speed of the traffic there. I think this is a great solution to get out there early on. VDOT looks like they will approve it.

David Stoner: What is the budget for the sidewalk project?

Ann M: It was 1,200,000.

Kevin: This is a revenue sharing project.

Kostas: Will there be a signal?

Kevin: No, there will be flashing lights.

Kostas: Can we reduce the speed to 35 mph?

Kevin: No road is entirely safe and this seems to be the best option…accidents happen at signaled crosswalks all the time.

Kostas: Its about the driver, not the pedestrian…it’s a really dangerous spot that has a lot of volume.

Beth Bassett: I agree…you can’t do one without the other.

Jennie More: There have to be speed limit changes.

John Savage: When there is a wreck on 64 and everyone is diverted to 250, its very difficult to travel on 250.

Kevin: So that’s the project, and I think it’s a great step forward.

Portions of eastern avenue near Westlake and the Foothills…Road improvement projects are moving forward with a 240/250 connector.

David Stoner: How much is left of Eastern Avenue?

Kevin: From where Park Ridge is to 240 including the train tracks…over Lickinghole Creek and going under the train tracks are huge priorities.

You have a good chance of scoring higher if you connect a Park-n-Ride lot with a road connector.

The projects we’ve requested funding for under the Smart Scale program are the following: Safety, land use, accessibility, and economic viability. Visit SmartScale.org for more information.

1. 250/240 Intersection Improvement: it was not selected to have funding awarded. We are still applying to get funding for this. It’s a regular size roundabout.
2. 151/250 Roundabout. This will be funded. There will be a demand light prior to the roundabout going in.

The board prioritizes the list of projects and sees what it can get funding for.

The prioritized future projects are:

250 intersection improvements, Crozet Avenue, Owensville Road and Tillman intersections. They are looking into faster lower cost solutions. There is some work going on and we’ll look to make more improvements as soon as possible.

Public Comment: I thought a roundabout had been recommended for Owensville Road.

Ann M: It was part of an older discussion, but it’s not moving forward.

Mike K: The side of Eastern Ave. that comes into Cory Farm Road, there was consideration of coming into Liberty Hall…someone had mentioned that this particular road to was going to be the natural connection to 240.

Kevin: Radford Lane is the road you’re speaking of. I don’t think it will be possible to put it on that and it looks like it will have to come out of Cory Farm.

Tom Loach: Can we put a three way stop at Jarman’s Gap Road? Right by the Vue.

Kevin: I don’t think VDOT is interested in putting a stop sign there. The light will move down to to Jarman’s Gap and Crozet Avenue.

Mary G: Can we crowd fund. The project?

Kevin: It’s possible, but that would be impressive. Getting the design done is the best way to get a project off.

David Stoner: How much would design cost?

Kevin: About 1,000,000.

Public Comment: The Crozet Master Plan calls for people to go to downtown not away from it and the bridge over Lickinghole would drive people away from downtown and the tunnel would drive people to downtown.

Jennie More: The square in the Barnes Lumber Yard should be a huge priority in our community.

David Stoner: I feel like that project should be pushed up the priority list because it’s critical to economic development.

Ann Mallek: It’s got delay written all over it.

Kevin: You’re likely going to have to seek other local funding. I caution not to put all of your money on a plan that doesn’t have a lot of potential. It can get expensive very quickly.

Ann Mallek: It’s county property, so it’s the county’s responsibility to take care of it.

Kevin: Other prioritized future projects include:

-Crozet Ave. bridge over Lickinghole Creek will be replaced., -Tabor/High/Hilltop Streets Sidewalks,

-Route 240 (Three Notche’d Road Shared – Use Path – Eastern Avenue to Highlands Drive,

-Crozet Avenue Shared Use Path – Tabor Street to Route 250,

-Barnes Lumber Redevelopment (Developer Led Project).

Phil Best: The Crozet Avenue Shared Use Path project should be a high priority because the area is very dangerous for bike and pedestrian traffic.

Kevin: I agree. We aren’t going to solve our transportation problems by building more lanes for cars. I walk and bike to and our priorities are to build multi-modal forms of transportation.

Ann Mallek: People have also been requesting to go to the cemetery for 10 years.

Kevin: The potential ongoing future projects are:

-The Crozet Square/Crozet Plaza (Frank Stoner)

-Bike Network Upgrades (Railroad Avenue, Route 810, Three Notch’d Road, Route 684

-Park and Ride Lots – Upgrade Downtown Lot, Route 250 near I-64, Three Notch’d Road near Employment Area.

John Savage: The common themes are Crozet Square and Parking. We need to prioritize these and get them ready so when money pops up, you’ve got a shovel ready project.

Public Comment: Look at your prioritization criteria are important to look at so you can back into your priorities.

David Stoner: That’s a great idea. How much time do we have?

Kevin: 1 month. If a project has an option to get money to it right now, then things can happen much more quickly.

Ann Mallek: What kind of design is required for a sidewalk?

Kevin: If VDOT is going to maintain that sidewalk, they need full right-of-way for the sidewalk. You have to have a registered engineer to draw up the design of the project. You can get it done for around 20,000 to 25,000 thousand.

Public Comment: It’s a million dollars for the construction of one mile of sidewalk.

David Stoner: In the interest of time, should we give Kevin our priorities now or later?

Kevin: I will bring a pre-approved projects list to you.

David: Our updated list would be the Eastern Avenue, Tabor/High/Hilltop Street Sidewalks, Route 240 (Three Notch’d Road) Shared-Use Path) – Eastern Avenue to Highlands Drive, and The Crozet Square Streetscape/Crozet Plaza.

1. Neighborhood Improvements Funding Initiative (All – 30 min)
2. Neighborhood Improvements Funding Initiative orientation – February 23rd, 6:00 pm County Office Building –RSVP to Emily’s invite
3. Items Not Listed on Agenda

Emily Kilroy: There is 1.4 million dollars to use. We’ll look at all of the priorities and then have a big push for community input. There will be a larger PR push to get more people to the March and April meetings. We’ll compile that and do it 7 times and all CCAC meetings and bring that to the board. The really important thing for everyone to recognize is that getting community input is important to get for the Master Plan revision.

Ann Mallek: Perhaps the Field School or other areas may be better for a larger group.

Emily: There will be an online component as well.

Tom Loach: Thanks Ann for your public comments on Adelaide in the Daily Progress about affordable housing in Albemarle County.

Jennie More: Yes, thank you Ann. A lot of people want to thank you for that.

1. Announcements
2. VA Festival of the book – Building and loving Where You Live” Wednesday, March 22nd, 2017 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Crozet Library <http://vabook.org/program/building-and-loving-where-you-live/>
3. Call for new CCAC member applications. Apply here by [ASAP – 3/15?]: <https://www.albemarle.org/boards/>
4. Future Agenda Items
5. Officer nominations/election – march meeting