

Takoma Park Complete Safe Streets Committee

November 24, 2020

7:00 pm-9:00 pm, Zoom Virtual Meeting

Called to order: 7:12

Adjourned: 8:48

Members

Constituting a Quorum:

Diana McCown, Jessica Landman, David Cookson, Tracy Duvall, Emanuel Wagner, Michael Moore

Members Absent (excused):

Frank Demarais, Mimi Diaz

Takoma Park Staff Present:

Jamee Ernst

Guest and Presenters

Michael Caruso

Committee Discussion

1. Review October Meeting Minutes
 - a. No questions and no motion need because October was not an official meeting
2. Update on sidewalk data and traffic calming locations
 - a. Jamee sent the report from Public Works showing all locations of sidewalk and traffic calming work from 2012-2020.
 - i. All work was tracked in an excel spreadsheet
 - ii. Questions about why this information is not tracked in GIS
 1. Excel works best for the Public Works staff to use
 2. GIS would provide a better picture of this data/work
 - a. As well as provide an equity check on the work being done
 - iii. Appears there is missing information from the excel spreadsheet
 - iv. The spreadsheet missed specific locations, such as which side of the street and "most of Ward 5"
 - v. Is there an inventory of traffic calming measures across the city?
 1. The excel file includes one section on traffic calming
 - vi. How did the items listed in the excel list get on the list? How projects are prioritized is missing
 - vii. Can Jaime reach back out to Public Works to confirm the excel file represents the extent of the sidewalk and traffic calming data?
 1. Suggested to invite Daryl to speak at our next meeting
 - a. What questions would we ask Daryl?
 - i. Is there a current list of pending projects and requests?
 - ii. What are the criteria for evaluation of requests?
 - iii. What is the system/method for maintenance?

- iv. Why were retro-fitting ADA ramps a higher priority than adding sidewalks?
 - v. Inventory of sidewalk and traffic calming projects
 - 1. Currently in place
 - 2. Currently requested
 - a. In queue
 - b. Not in queue
 - c. City requested in queue/not in queue
 - d. Resident requested in queue/not in queue
 - 3. Currently scheduled
 - vi. Share evaluation tool with Public Works for input
 - viii. The committee should recommend to transfer excel data to GIS as it will allow Public Works, City Council, City Committees, as well as other stakeholders to have better data to inform decisions and recommendations.
3. Discussion on Sidewalk and Traffic Calming recommended tool/process
 - a. The inventory completed by Jennifer Toole was based on an ADA based sidewalk inventory. Jennifer recommended we re-assess the evaluation tool to add weighting factors with new eyes particularly with respect to racial equity and inclusion.
 - b. Emanuel presented a model of an evaluation tool with weighted score and recommendations
 - i. Criteria, Raw Score, Weighted Score
 - ii. Public opinion is included but not to supersede the rest of the weighted score
 - c. Recommend Council apply the recommendations presented in March 2020 with the addition of the weighted criteria
4. Plan/begin to execute the drafting of recommendations
 - a. The committee should recommend to transfer excel data to GIS as it will allow Public Works, City Council, City Committees, as well as other stakeholders to have better data to inform decisions and recommendations.
 - b. There still needs to be a public input process and outreach prior to project finalization
 - c. Is there a way to facilitate a conversation between neighborhood residents and public works? A way for neighborhood residents to have their voice heard? A clear process of how the city informs residents of Public Works projects is needed. There needs to be clarification between notification/education, consultation and feedback/stakeholder engagement. Perhaps the inclusion of education with the notification
 - d. This should be complete by the January 2021 meeting
5. Discuss code of ethics for City Committees
 - a. This is still a draft. Final version is expected tomorrow.
 - b. Once concern is the vagueness of some of the language, “report this to...” to whom do we report?

6. Plan Outreach to Council
 - a. Jamee to schedule committee to present to Council any time after the second week of January

7. Other business
 - a. David Moon – Speed Limit Bill
 - i. Jessica drafted a letter to the city council recommending the Council support David Moon's legislation to change the state minimum speed limit
 1. Montgomery County will have the ability to lower the speed limit to 15 mph without a speed study in urban areas and with a speed study in rural areas
 - a. Challenge is other areas in the county may not be in support
 - i. Does anyone on the committee know other individuals willing to speak to their representatives in support of this bill?
 - ii. Support is needed soon, within the first two weeks of December
 - ii. If David would like to come talk to our committee he has an open invitation.