

Introduced by: Councilmember Seamens

CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND

RESOLUTION 2012-53

**ENDORING THE ETHAN ALLEN GATEWAY STREETScape CONCEPT DESIGN
AND AUTHORIZING SOLICITATION OF PROJECT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, the intersection of East-West Highway/Ethan Allen Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue has been identified as a primary gateway into the City of Takoma Park; and

WHEREAS, the New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Concept Plan, adopted by City Council in 2008, recommends the creation of a pedestrian-friendly street and, in conjunction with the anticipated redevelopment of New Hampshire Avenue as a multi-way boulevard, the re-design of the intersection to reduce pedestrian crossing distances, enhance bicycle facilities, and improve neighborhood connections to transit; and

WHEREAS, the City, in partnership with the community, area businesses and the consultant team of Rummel, Klepper & Kahl (RK&K) and Mahan Rykiel Associates produced three concept design alternatives for the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape; and

WHEREAS, City Planning staff and the consultant team, with the concurrence of the Maryland State Highway Administration, recommend advancing Alternative 3 to the next phase of final design and engineering; and

WHEREAS, Alternative 3 provides the greatest amount of additional streetscape space for pedestrian amenities, green space, and stormwater facilities, significantly decreases pedestrian crossing distances at the intersection, and accommodates bicycles on the east leg of MD 410, while maintaining the existing Level of Service grade for the traffic operations of the overall intersection; and

WHEREAS, RK&K performed supplemental traffic analysis as requested by City Council on July 23, 2012 and found that a Modified Alternative 3 with only one westbound through lane would significantly deteriorate the performance of the intersection without noticeably reducing westbound traffic volume across New Hampshire Avenue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY

OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND hereby endorses the concept design Alternative 3 for the Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape project; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the approved Ethan Allen Gateway Streetscape concept shall be advanced to final design and engineering, effective immediately, with the following considerations:

- A. The proposed locations of all rain gardens, green spaces, public art, and bus stops, as well as sidewalk widths and provision for on-street parking are flexible and will be determined in the next phase of planning and design that includes future meetings with agency stakeholders and the public.
- B. The proposed mid-block crosswalk is contingent on a pedestrian study to be conducted by Maryland State Highway Administration; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Manager is hereby authorized to proceed with the identification and solicitation of funding for construction of the project.

Adopted this 18th day of September, 2012

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk