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Boyd K. Rutherford, **Lt. Governor**
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Gregory C. Johnson, **Administrator**

TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

TO: DIVISION CHIEF BARBARA L. SOLBERG, P.E.
FROM: PROJECT MANAGER NICOLAS SAAVEDRA
SUBJECT: MD 180 (JEFFERSON PIKE) PROJECT-TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES
DATE: MARCH 2, 2017
RESPONSE
REQUESTED BY: N/A

PURPOUSE

The purpose of these meeting minutes is to summarize the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) State Highway Administration (SHA) Task Force Meeting held on November 29, 2016, at 6:30 pm, at the Jefferson Ruritan Center in Jefferson, Maryland. Representatives from SHA, the Task Force Group, and Jefferson residents were in attendance.

The other purpose of these minutes is to announce to the Task Force group the upcoming informational public meeting to be held at the Jefferson Ruritan Center on May 11, 2017, at 6:30 pm. During the meeting there will be a brief presentation at 7:00 pm. The SHA would like to announce the names of the Task Force group members and thank them for their support and cooperation during the design process. A newsletter will be sent to all neighboring residents informing them of the meeting.

SUMMARY

The meeting opened with introductions of project team members, followed by a short presentation outlining the items mentioned below. The floor was then opened for individual questions and concerns. These questions and concerns are attached, along with their respective responses from SHA.

Project Funding and Schedule

The project is funded for right-of-way acquisition and construction. Design is anticipated to be completed at the end of March 2017. Construction is expected to start Fall 2017.

What to Expect During Construction

District 7 will coordinate with property owners during construction for driveway closures. It is anticipated construction of this project will take approximately one and a half years. A more detailed construction time frame will be generated by the contractor prior to the start of construction. The contractor and SHA will hold regular meetings throughout the project to coordinate maintenance of traffic. Residents will be invited to attend these meetings.

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Right-of-Way Acquisitions

The SHA will need to acquire perpetual easements, temporary construction easements, and fee-simple. The right-of-way acquisition process will take approximately six to eight months. The temporary construction easements will revert to the property owner at the completion of construction. The contractor is responsible for restoring ground cover. Fee-simple acquisitions are needed for future maintenance of facilities throughout the town of Jefferson. These acquisitions usually include inlets, manhole covers, and signal poles. Perpetual easements will be needed for periodic access to inspect and perform minor maintenance for drainage ditches and outfalls. The District 7 Right-of-Way Office will contact every affected, individual property owner and explain the type of right-of-way needed for the project. They will then walk them through the process of acquisition.

Utility Relocations

There will be five utility relocations concurrent to the work in this project. These relocations include a sanitary sewer main relocation on the west end of Jefferson and four utility pole relocations. Three of the utility pole relocations are at the Lander Road intersection, and one is in the middle of a driveway near Old Middletown Road. The utility pole relocations will be done by the individual utility owners. The SHA does not have control over the location or schedule of the utility pole relocations. The SHA will provide plans to the utility companies, so they can determine which poles need relocated. Although the contractor strongly attempts to avoid impacts to individual property utilities during construction, sometimes they still happen. Should the contractor damage any existing utility, they will be held responsible for the repair or replacement.

Drainage

The proposed drainage works includes a new closed drainage system with new inlets and pipes, cleaning of existing inlets, and upgrade of pipes crossing the MD 180. Excess water at the limits of the project will be captured by inlets and carried away from the road by the proposed pipe network. Additionally, two stormwater management facilities will be added north of the Lander Road and US 340 intersection.

ATTACHEMENTS (Page Three and Four)

Individual Questions/Concerns

INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Concern: The Ruritan Center uses the area of the existing ditch for parking during their annual fund raiser the last week of every July. Will the new graded ditch be able to be used for parking?

Response: The ditch will be a shallow, grass-covered ditch traversable by vehicles. It will not be ideal for parking but it will be usable. A section of pipe will also be installed to allow vehicles to easily move across the ditch. The pipe will be proximately 40 feet long and located at the south end of the ditch.

Concern: Where will the stormwater management facilities be located? The Ruritan Center just had several large facilities removed from their property in the vicinity of the interchange.

Response: The facilities will be located north of the US 340 westbound and Lander Road exit and entrance ramps.

Concern: Members of the Task Force asked if the bio-retention facility south of the Ruritan Center entrance could be moved farther away or to the gore area between the ramp and US 340. They also worry about the upkeep and aesthetics.

Response: There is not enough room in the gore area to place the facility. South of the Ruritan Center is the only available location for the bio-retention facility, due to the limited space in Jefferson. The SHA will regularly maintain the facilities.

Concern: Will there be new lighting installed as part of the project? Currently the Ruritan Club is responsible for paying for the lights.

Response: No new lighting is proposed as part of this project.

Concern: The fence at the Methodist Church, 3882 Jefferson Pike, is historic. The historic properties in Jefferson are documented on the Ruritan Club's website.

Response: The fence will not be disturbed; the contractor will be made aware to protect, and not impact, the fence.

Concern: How does SHA determine if a tree needs to be removed?

Response: During design, professional arborists will assess which trees can be saved and which trees need to be removed. If the roots of a tree are heavily disturbed, it is likely to die soon after.

Concern: Laura and Price Kaler, owners of 3733 Jefferson Pike, asked if a stamped brick section of sidewalk could be added, if paid by the property owners

Response: After discussing the request with SHA's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Team, they mentioned it would be possible to add the stamped sidewalk. The average cost of the stamped brick sidewalk is \$30 to \$35 per square foot, to be paid by the property owner. The ADA Team also recommended placing real bricks for lower maintenance.

Concern: Mr. Rich Cooper, owner of the 3703 Jefferson Pike property (Jefferson Market), has a sign that is currently shown as being removed. Who will remove it and how will it be done?

Response: The sign relocation will be discussed and agreed to as part of the right-of-way process.

Concern: The new development at Woodbourne Manor is flooding the neighboring fields.

Response: At this point, there is nothing SHA can do; the agreement for drainage between the developer and the review agency is out of SHA's control.

Concern: There is a sewer cleanout at the edge of the easement area shown on the layout, and the sewer line runs through the construction area. Will it be impacted?

Response: During construction the contractor test pits all utilities to find them, before beginning large excavation.

Concern: The property at 9009 Jefferson Pike has a utility pole too close to the driveway entrance.

Response: This pole will not be relocated. The driveway is not within the required minimum distance specified by Potomac Edison.

Concern: 3701 Jefferson Pike does not have a driveway apron.

Response: A driveway apron will be added for this property.

Concern: The property owners of 4001 Jefferson Pike asked if the utility pole west of their driveway apron can be moved further away.

Response: This pole will not be relocated. The driveway apron is not within the required minimum distance specified by Potomac Edison.