

South Shore Trail Phase IV Public Meeting of May 17, 2022 Questions and Answers

Webinar ID 813 9729 5473		# Question = 12
South Shore Trail Phase 4 (P372000) Virtual Public Mtg		Actual Start Time 5/17/2022 6:18:00 PM
#	Question	Answer
1	Is all the money already allocated in the budget for this to be completed?	Robert Fernandez will research and return to this question. UPDATE: The design effort is fully funded. In this draft FY23 budget, Recreation and Parks has requested a grant match be encumbered. A Transportation Alternatives Program grant is planned to be applied for in May 2023.
2	Is there a proposed start date? Summer 2023, for example?	At this stage it will be challenging to put out a construction schedule. We will work with property owners for right of way and work with the state. We intend to continue the right of way process and pick back up on design. We will make a grant application. There are several years ahead of us. We have a public web page and will keep you updated as we move along. Link to project webpage: https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/capital-projects/Projects/south-shore-trail
3	Please give your best timeline estimates for the project.	The right of way (ROW) process will take its own amount of time. From a design standpoint we are looking at a couple of years to design. This is a long segment, working through ROW and grant processes will take time.
4	Do you anticipate any changes to existing stormwater easements as a result of trail construction?	Not at this point.
5	Please explain how obtaining right of ways is performed with property owners.	The AAco DPW has a Right of Way (ROW) division who has taken the lead in these roles. If there is an HOA we would use them as a conduit, with individual homeowners we would reach out to them via mailed correspondence. The ROW office will be working with the owners, we will work throughout the process to answer questions and provide information. In some spaces we may need a temporary easement. There is compensation for any affected property owners.
6	For example - how long from when you had the initial meeting for phase I to when it was built?	Several years for design and a year to year and a half for construction for this project. There are many reasons a project may incur delays.
7	thanks!	Thank you!
8	And if property owners decline right of way?	We would look to see how design would be impacted without that right of way (ROW). We are mindful of that possibility and trying to be least impactful to others. Ex. IF we need to include a retaining wall where we had not originally included that, we will look at other options.

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9	Forgive me if I missed this, but is there a plan for traffic calming along Fairfield Loop in order to protect trail users? Living on Fairfield Loop, I know that vehicular traffic can be a real danger for pedestrians and bicyclists.	The north end of Fairfield loop there will be signage and crosswalks, nothing on Fairfield loop is proposed as far as signage. We would have to talk about this further as a design team and DPW traffic engineering would have weigh in. We acknowledge that there may be additional design efforts to make the safest design for the trail. We will keep this in mind as we fine tune the design.
10	Great! Thank you!	Thank you!
11	will there be a barrier between general's highway and the trail in order to protect pedestrians?	Generally no but the trail is in most cases set back from the road at least 8ft, if not more in most cases. Where we get closer to the road there will be provisions added, this is something that will be a part of the design. Sometimes the extra protection will be more distance or the addition of a barrier. In some cases the trail is well above or below the roadway.
12	Very exciting! Thank you for all of your work!	Thank you Scott!
Comment Period Questions and Answers		
1	I am concerned about the current plan as I understand it at the intersection of General's Highway and Crownsville Rd. This intersection, which includes Fairfield Loop, is extremely dangerous. Cars regularly make a right turn on red from Generals Hwy onto Crownsville Rd, even though it is posted as "no turn on red". This intersection also includes a blinking red/yellow at Crownsville Rd and Fairfield Loop on weekends, which makes it even more dangerous. I am not opposed to the plan in general, but this part really worries me.	DPW's Traffic Engineering Division has assisted with this area in particular. They also are routine reviewers of trail design capital projects.
2	Please consider adding a few parking spaces near the Honeysuckle Dr and additional spaces in the existing parking lot at Millersville Rd. This will attract more cyclist and more parking will be needed. Also agreements to parking at the golf course and/or the AACPS transportation lot should be encouraged and explored.	Additional parking options have been explored. We will utilize the undeveloped parkland reminted South Shore Park in Crownsville to help with this demand.