

ISSUE 1 MINUTES

June 2, 2009

The Issue 1 Task Force Committee meeting was held on June 2, 2009, at North Royalton City Hall, 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Committee: Chair Vince Gentile, Larry Antoskiewicz, Dan Kasaris; Council: Don Willey, Mike Farrell, John Nickell, Gary Petrusky; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer, Economic Development Director Tom Jordan; Other Attendees: Paul Marnecheck.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Antoskiewicz, seconded by Mr. Kasaris to **approve the May 6, 2009 Minutes**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Bennett Road Project, Route 82, Valley Parkway, Turnpike Run-off Study, Sprague Road**

Mr. Jordan said we received the results from the traffic study on the Route 82 project, sponsored by the Cuyahoga County Engineer's Office. Mr. Jordan said that in order to receive federal funding for the Route 82 project, we have to jump through a number of hoops which we have completed in part. In addition, he found that the project is not on the region's Long Term Transportation Improvement Plan and they cannot recollect when it ever was even though this project did have sponsorship from ODOT in the past. He said he felt it was in our best interest to begin doing the necessary studies and filing the necessary applications so that we might be eligible for funding. Mr. Jordan said he met with the State Regional Director, Anne Hill and Cuyahoga County Engineer Bob Klaiber. He said when he and Mr. Klaiber discussed the specific issues on this project which is to widen Route 82 from the Corp Limit to West 130th Street, they determined the cost of this project will be approximately \$28,000,000. Mr. Klaiber suggested breaking this project down into three phases, each phase would cost \$10,000,000. The largest phase and the most expensive is Phase 1 which is the study between York Road and West 130th Street. Mr. Jordan said a lot of the cost is dependent on how wide the road is. He said how wide the road is depends on the traffic study that is being done on Route 82. If the government agrees with the study results they will only fund 50% of the cost. In order to get 80% we have to show traffic volumes, what is projected in the area, look at the land usage in the area and what it might generate. Mr. Jordan discussed the findings of the study and said that the County Engineer's office found the biggest issues along the road today are the private drives. Mr. Jordan said they looked at the traffic volumes and projected them out and their recommendation is to do a three lane road. The three lane road will resolve certain issues that we have today. He said they never recommended a four lane road. Mr. Jordan said the cost to do a 3 lane road is \$11.6 million dollars just for Phase 1.

Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if they take into account during this traffic study the possibility or the future of the industrial park. Mr. Jordan said they did look at land usage. Mr. Antoskiewicz also asked if 80% of the funding includes all funding or are federal and state funding separate from each other. Mr. Jordan said most of the money that comes from the state and the county is federal origin.

Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if we are going for Issue 1 money on this project. Mr. Jordan said that Mayor Stefanik followed up with Mr. Klaiber after we obtained the results and indicated that this year we are not going to file for Issue 1 funding. He said he believes this is for two reasons; one being that Mr. Klaiber knows most of the projects and the line up and probably feels that next year might be better, but he said he also feels that we should let the 2010 appropriation in the Federal Highway Bill play out and by the time it rolls around next year we may have more money stored and can apply for Issue 1 again.

Mr. Jordan said Mr. Schmitzer spent a lot of time filing applications with NOACA to make the road fully fundable for NOACA funds.

Mr. Schmitzer said that from an engineering standpoint the current situation from York Road to West 130th Street operates at every signalized intersection at an acceptable level of service except the intersection of West

130th Street. He said the three lane cross section gets the movement that causes traffic delays and causes the level of service to go to unacceptable levels. He said the third lane will get that left turn which is always where the movement stops. He said if you have a four lane cross section it brings the safety level down because there are additional lanes to cross. He said when you go from a three lane cross section to a four lane cross section, the level of service gets worse and when you go to a five lane cross section it is off the charts. He said all of these improvements are going to help. Mr. Gentile asked if these lanes are standard size or a little wider. Mr. Schmitzer said he believes they are 12 foot lanes. Mr. Kasaris asked why Route 82 is four lanes in Strongsville and three lanes in North Royalton. Mr. Schmitzer said there are no driveways between West 130th Street and I-71 like we have on the stretch of Route 82 in North Royalton.

Mr. Gentile asked about the projections for the roadway. He asked if this is going to be an asphalt road with concrete curbs and a totally enclosed storm sewer. Mr. Schmitzer said it will be an asphalt overlay with a concrete base. Mr. Jordan pointed out that the cost estimate is just a planning level cost estimate and is not a final cost estimate. Mr. Gentile asked Mr. Schmitzer if based on today's material cost would it make sense to use concrete rather than asphalt. Mr. Schmitzer said based on the cost estimate, because there is no quantity and no dollar cost, they may have already included this as a concrete section. Mr. Gentile asked Mr. Jordan if based on this estimate our cost would be \$2.33 million. Mr. Jordan said it could be as high as that but said he is always looking to reduce the amount. Mr. Jordan said he is recommending that next year be the Issue 1 application. He also said that the City Engineer has asked that we share this with full Council and make Council aware that what we are seeking is relative to the scope of the project which is a three way road. Mayor Stefanik said that Mr. Klaiber said in regards to the Issue 1 funding, that it could be next year or the following year. He said Mr. Klaiber just wants a verbal commitment before we go to the next step and spend more of the county's money.

Mr. Willey said the section from York Road to State Road is three lanes already and asked why we would go into this with the theory that it is three lanes. Mr. Jordan said the cost may go down when we get into more specifics. He said the original \$30,000,000 was based on a 1990 design of the road and we did cost estimates based on that. He said his vision for this road is that we do some enhancements to the road. Mr. Kasaris asked Mr. Schmitzer if this includes sidewalks. Mr. Schmitzer said he believes that this includes sidewalks on both sides of the road. Mr. Schmitzer said to keep in mind that the study that was done has only been done for this section. He said that as we get into the other sections of this project, if the usage shows something different, and we move closer to the center of town, it may end up needing to be a four lane cross section.

Mr. Nickell asked what is going to happen by the apartments on Route 82 (Deer Creek and Spruce Run) as it is always backed up in that area. Mr. Schmitzer said this project will take out the right turn lane and there will be build-outs and a third lane on each side. Mr. Kasaris asked how long it will take from groundbreaking to completion. Mr. Schmitzer said at this point he could not say. Mr. Schmitzer said the three lane cross section reduces the cost for lane acquisition for additional right of way. He said the costs we looked at previously were for lane acquisition for a larger cross section and the cost was approximately \$2,000,000 per phase. Mr. Schmitzer said the cost of this project could grow. He said he feels a safe number is \$3,000,000-\$3,500,000 per phase. Mr. Jordan said we will also need to discuss utility relocation.

Mr. Willey feels the land acquisition could cost more than that. Mayor Stefanik said the largest property owner the Gross Brothers are in favor of this project and are going to lobby for us and possibly help in getting some federal funding. Mr. Willey asked about the vacant land next to Master Auto on Route 82. He asked what happens if you create a non-conforming lot as a result of acquiring that property. Mr. Schmitzer said the main transmission line is on the south side of the road so that is where the acquisition would be. He said from Abbey Road East it will be on the south side and between Abbey Road and W. 130th Street it would be split.

Mayor Stefanik briefly discussed the Towne Center Project. He said this project is probably years away due to the economy. Mr. Jordan said banks are going to be tougher for the developer. He said they are not going to take the developer's word for it that he can make a residentially used property into what a commercial property is valued at. He said he does believe this project will go forward, but he said if we abide by the original Master

Plan and the zoning that was called for and not put in large regional big box we are not going to have a problem with a three lane.

Mayor Stefanik said the city is not involved in any of the negotiations for land sales. He said that is between the developer and the homeowners.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said he would like to continue the discussion about what we are doing with Issue 1 funding this year.

Mr. Petrusky asked how much more it would cost to continue three lanes to the bottom of the Route 82 Hill. Mr. Gentile said we are just looking at West 130th Street to York Road and beyond that has not yet been studied.

Mr. Gentile asked Mr. Schmitzer if he has any information on the scoring for the Bennett Road Project. Mr. Schmitzer said NOACA has received the application. He said he has also placed a call to Mr. Klaiber to set up a meeting to discuss scoring for this project.

Mr. Schmitzer also discussed the Valley Parkway Project, Sprague Road and Turnpike Run Off Study. It was determined that Valley Parkway and Turnpike Run Off Study are one project. Mr. Willey asked if the Sprague Road project starts at West 130th Street to York Road. Mr. Schmitzer said this project runs from State Road to Broadview Road. He said the county is currently looking to do a project on Sprague Road from York Road to State Road. Mr. Schmitzer said if we seek Issue 1 funding for this project (State Road to Broadview Road), Parma would play a big part in this project and based on the current situation in Parma, he does not know if that is possible. Mr. Gentile said Sprague Road has a lot of stormwater issues and they need to be addressed. He said Parma needs to get going on their sanitary project. Mr. Willey asked Mr. Schmitzer if Mr. Klaiber thinks we should apply for Issue 1 funding for this project. Mr. Schmitzer said they did not discuss this project.

Mr. Schmitzer is going to try to have more information available on the scoring for the Bennett Road project and the Valley Parkway/Turnpike Run Off Study by the July 7th meeting. Mr. Schmitzer will be on vacation, but will get the information to Mr. Gentile prior to that meeting.

Mr. Nickell asked about the stretch of Sprague Road from West 130th Street to York Road. Mr. Schmitzer said this is in the very preliminary stages.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Antoskiewicz and seconded by Mr. Kasaris to **adjourn the meeting**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried**. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.