CITY OF MAYFIELD HEIGHTS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2020

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Council President Diane Snider.

ROLL CALL: PRESENT: Mr. Michael Ballistrea, Mr. Robert DeJohn, Mrs. Donna Finney, Mr. Donald Manno, Mrs. Susan Sabetta, Mrs. Diane Snider, Mrs. Gayle Teresi.

Also present were Mayor Anthony DiCicco, Recreation Director Sean Ward, City Engineer Dan Gerson, Director of Finance/Clerk of Council Karen Fegan and Deputy Clerk of Council Victoria Savage.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mrs. Snider stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Gates Mills Boulevard Connector Project – Clean Ohio Trails Grant.

Sean Ward introduced Christian Lynn from AECOM. Mr. Lynn explained that AECOM had worked with the City to develop the original NOACA funded Planning Study out of which came several prioritized projects. This will be the third grant application that the City will be pursuing. Mr. Lynn gave a brief summary of the Mayfield Heights Connectivity Plan, that provided a 10-year vision for the City including a system of primary and secondary routes and other improvements to connect destinations around Mayfield Heights. The Plan also includes the identification and prioritization of near-term projects and funding opportunities.

Mr. Lynn stated that the first funding opportunity submitted late last fall, was through the Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency (NOACA), the Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative Construction Grant. This grant would provide for the following Intersection Enhancements:

- Ridgebury Boulevard and Lander Road
- Ridgebury Boulevard Midblock (at Hight School)
- Ridgebury Boulevard and S.O.M. Center Road
- S.O.M. Center road and Mayfield Road
- Mayfield Road, Commonwealth Avenue and Chelmsford Road
- S.O.M. Center Road, Gates Mills Boulevard and Woodhawk Drive. Roundabout

The City recently applied for funding from Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) administered by Cuyahoga County through the Department of Development to make improvements to the Marsol underpass creating better connectivity for residents on the eastside of Marsol over to the park and the shopping center as well as being a part of the longer vision for improving bike access along Marsol tying into the larger network.

Mr. Lynn said that tonight, we are looking at the area along Gates Mills Boulevard. This is a project that will qualify for the Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant. This is an annual grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. This grant offers a maximum award of $500,000 and it requires a 25% local contribution which can come in a wide variety of forms. This is a big opportunity for the City given that much of its property is already City owned. The current phase of the project would provide:

- 10-acre Park
- New ¾ Mile Multi-Use Trail
- Park Signage
- Kiosks
- Stormwater Improvements
- Landscaping
- Pull Off Parking (20 spaces)
- Trailside Seating Areas
- Site Furnishings including:
  - Benches
  - Pet waste disposal stations

Mr. Lynn shared that the application needs to be submitted by March 1 and the information being presented to Council this evening would be part of the application.
Mr. Lynn stated that the City owns the property, it is quite an expansive space, well vegetated and on average, is 130 feet wide. The property is being used recreationally but currently there is no formal access. As part of the project, there are some drainage issues that can be resolved. A previous grant application, prioritized the pedestrian crosswalk improvements at the circle of Gates Mills and so if the City is successful in receiving funding, that will tie directly into this project. These are not independent projects, each one of the projects are feeding into a larger vision of connectivity. It is important that the City demonstrates that monies received from the various agencies are being invested in a larger community vision. The residents have shared throughout the process that they valued the improvements that the Connectivity Plan can bring such as multipurpose trails, and the ability to connect the City's key locations while creating a new park within the City.

Mr. Lynn explained that the grant provides funding of trails and focuses on regional connections. The planning study looked at the idea of being able to connect to Pepper Pike, Gates Mills and also up S.O.M. Center Road which is identified as part of the larger community connectivity study. This project is an enabling project, and is something the City could leverage because creating and making approximately 10 acres of green space accessible to the public is something that is easily attainable. The grant will provide for the planning and the design of the project.

Mr. Lynn stated that stormwater improvements would be incorporated in the project because the City can access some of the Sewer District’s Community Cost Share funds. Mr. Lynn stated maintaining and supplementing the existing vegetation will create a true park feel. To provide access to the park some crosswalk improvements to adjoining neighborhoods will need to be made. Signaling will also be required. In the future, additional improvements and amenities may include lighting or other amenities.

The total cost of the project is $795,420. The amount of state funding being requested through Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Clean Ohio Trails Fund totals just under the maximum allowed request of $500,000. Costs also include the 25% local match requirement of $98,663. Mr. Lynn noted that it is beneficial to the application to exceed the minimum of the local match. So, between utilizing the Sewer District Community Cost Share funds to do a lot of the stormwater improvements along the trails and the parking lot that will be added, that adds another $117,000. In terms of local cash match coming from the City, that amounts to approximately $100,000 comprised of a lot of the site amenities. There is an additional local match comprised of in-kind services.

Mr. Ballistrea asked how the number of parking spaces was determined? Mr. Lynn explained that it was a budget factor and what was allowable within the street crossings. The park is being used today without parking and this is something that could be expanded in the future. Mr. Ballistrea pointed out that there is valuable City property at the end of Woodhawk which is not being utilized. Could this property be incorporated into the project? Mr. Lynn replied that this is the initial phase and that is something that can be considered and added to the project. A critical part of the planning of the first phase was to try to contain the cost factor.

Mr. Manno asked if there was any thought given to rest facilities either permanent or portable? Mr. Lynn replied that there were a lot of very conceptual ideas presented for future implementation such as a shelter or space for a dog park. We would be looking to hear from the residents in terms of specifics of those types of amenities. In terms of restrooms there are a number of options, a water utility would have to be provided and thought would need to be given as to where those types of facilities should be located.

Mrs. Teresi asked, pertaining to a walking and running path, are pets are allowed? Mr. Lynn replied, pets, pedis and bikes. This is a multi-use trail. Someone who is a more experienced cyclist will probably stay on the road. The multi-paths would be used more by the recreational bike cyclists. The 10-foot-wide path is made for passable two-way traffic and the criteria set forth for these trails is made to accommodate multi-use functions. There will be signage alerting the public to beware of faster traffic and dogs.

Mrs. Teresi asked if a plan like this has been proposed to Gates Mills? Mr. Lynn responded, no but they were on the Stakeholder Steering Committee. The neighboring communities have representatives on our steering committee where this was discussed. So, the idea in general has been shared. This trail is not independent just to Mayfield Heights, it has a larger community interest. Just as we had people in Mayfield Village knowing that we wanted to go
up S.O.M. Center and eventually give people access to the trail located in Mayfield Village. And so those folks were engaged in the planning process but something specific like this has not been presented to them in more detail. Mrs. Teresi asked if they were favorable to the idea of going up through their median to continue this activity? Mr. Lynn responded that he didn’t remember hearing any negative feedback. You will get better feedback with a specific plan; we are talking about it very much in concept and how nice it would be to have a regional connection.

Mr. Ballistrea, seconded by Mrs. Teresi, to adjourn. All in favor, motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 P.M.

Approved:

Diane M. Snider
Council President

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria Savage
Deputy Clerk of Council
City of Mayfield Heights
Clean Ohio Trails Fund Application
March 2020
Mayfield Heights Connectivity Plan

- Completed June 2019
- Includes system of primary and secondary routes and other improvements to connect destinations around Mayfield Heights
- Identification and prioritization of near-term projects and funding opportunities

Legend
- Primary Routes
- Secondary Routes

City of Mayfield Heights
Identified Priority Projects Pursuing Grant Funds

- **Gates Mills Boulevard Connector**
  - Clean Ohio Trails Fund
- Marsol Road Underpass Improvements
  - Cuyahoga County Municipal Grant
- Intersection Enhancements:
  - Ridgebury Blvd. and Lander Road
  - Ridgebury Blvd. Midblock (at High School)
  - Ridgebury Blvd. and S.O.M. Center Rd.
  - S.O.M. Center Rd. and Mayfield Rd.
  - Mayfield Rd., Commonwealth Ave. and Chelmsford Rd
  - S.O.M. Center Rd., Gates Mills Blvd., and Woodhawk Dr. Roundabout

*Transportation for Livable Communities Initiative Grant from Northeast Ohio Area Coordinating Agency

City of Mayfield Heights
Existing Conditions

- City owned property
- 130 ft wide median
- Mature vegetation
- Currently used for informal passive recreation and dog walking
- Roadway produces significant stormwater runoff
Clean Ohio Trails Fund Grant Criteria

- New trails
- Minimal trailside facilities
- Planning, surveys, engineering design costs, associated with a particular project
- Maximum award $500,000
- Requires 25% Non-federal match
- Opportunity to use Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District Community Funds as part of local match
Proposed Project (Current Phase)

- 10-Acre Park
- New 3/4 mile multi-use trail
- Park Signage
- Kiosks
- Stormwater Improvements
- Landscaping
- Pull Off Parking (20 Spaces)
- Trailside Seating Areas
- Site Furnishings including:
  - Benches
  - Pet waste disposal stations

Cost: $795,420

City of Mayfield Heights
Proposed Plan Central

- Proposed bench
- Gates Mills Boulevard
- Stormwater basin
- Proposed crosswalk
- Existing tree, typ.
- Proposed tree, typ.
- Proposed trail
- Vegetated swale

City of Mayfield Heights
City of Mayfield Heights
**Project Cost Estimate and Proposed Funding Breakdown**

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<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>QTY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>UNIT</th>
<th>UNIT PRICE</th>
<th>PROJECT (Current Phase)</th>
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<th>NEORS Cost SHARE</th>
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*City of Mayfield Heights*