

**PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING MINUTES  
ALPHA STREET GROUP PROJECT**

DATE: February 8, 2017  
TIME: 6:30 p.m.  
LOCATION: Port Terminal Building, Waterside Room, 1000 N. River Street  
ATTENDEES: See Attached List

The purpose of the meeting was to present preliminary (35%) plans to the public of the proposed street improvements for the Alpha Street Group Project. The project includes the following street segments:

Alpha Street (Beach Avenue to Wilder Terrace)  
Braddock Street (Alpha Street to Henley Street)  
Meriden Street (Alpha Street to Wilder Terrace)  
Wilder Terrace (Beach Avenue to Alpha Street)

The attached meeting agenda was provided for all attendees.

Al Giglio (AG) began the meeting by introducing Zina Lagonegro (ZL), Director of Zoning, to discuss illegal front yard parking.

(ZL) Historically, the Zoning office has worked with the Department of Environmental Services (DES) when a street improvement project is planned to review each property based on their needs for driveway access. The field visits are conducted based on the DES Driveway policy. The driveway policy requires a minimum distance of eight feet between the dwelling and the side property line to allow for driveways to lead to the rear yard. The Zoning Code requires that all driveways must lead to parking areas in the rear yard or in an attached or detached garage. Paved areas adjacent to the driveway or a garage where the parking area is between the street and the building is considered to be front yard parking, which is prohibited under the Zoning Code. Depending on your individual circumstance, any front yard parking issues that have been identified can either be remedied through the Administrative Adjustment process or by variance approval by the Zoning Board of Appeals. All letters outlining any driveway issues have been mailed to the property owner of record. If you did not receive a letter, then we did not find any areas of concern with your property. Jill Symonds on my team is available to assist anyone who has any questions regarding the process. She may be contacted at 428-7364; or by email at [Jill.Symonds@CityofRochester.gov](mailto:Jill.Symonds@CityofRochester.gov).

Al Giglio (AG) continued by identifying the different streets within the project shown on the meeting presentation displays. The improvements to these streets will include: new granite curbs installed at a height of 7 ¼ inches; new driveway curb cuts with new driveway aprons (area of the driveway between the curb and sidewalk); sidewalk replacement in some areas as shown in the presentation display; rehabilitation of Meriden Street and on portions of Alpha Street and Wilder Terrace which typically includes the milling of 1-1/2 to 3 inches off the top layer of asphalt and the application of a new layer of hot mix asphalt; full depth reconstruction of Braddock Street and on portions of Wilder Terrace and Alpha Street.

Recessed on-street parallel parking is proposed on both sides of Wilder Terrace, along the ball fields. Some trees within the project limits will need to be removed due to the street improvements. Those trees are identified on the presentation display with a red slashed circle. Toward the end of construction, topsoil and seed will be placed in all disturbed areas. Street lighting fixtures will be upgraded. Then AG introduced Lisa Reyes (LR) to the meeting to talk about utilities.

LR stated that street lighting fixtures will be upgraded to a more efficient LED system. Spacing of the lighting fixtures will be evaluated for the allowance of better and more consistent light distribution. The City's Street Lighting Division will be preparing the design which will be based off of RG&E electric's proposed wood utility pole locations. Street lighting conduits are all located above ground and on RG&E's wood utility poles.

RG&E Electric is in the process of reviewing the preliminary plans to determine what upgrades are necessary. All electric lines are above ground on wood utility poles. Any poles in conflict (i.e. in a driveway) will be relocated. Once RG&E Electric completes their design upgrade, Street Lighting, cable and fiber companies will follow suite with their relocations as their facilities are all above ground and share the RG&E wood utility poles.

Karl Waelder (KW) then updated the public on the water improvements. KW provided a brief history of the water mains in the area and continued by discussing the proposed improvements. All lead and galvanized water services will be replaced with polyethylene (PE) water service pipe from the water main in the road to the curb stops near the right of way line. Any repair or replacement of the water service on the private side of the right of way is the homeowner's responsibility. All copper services will remain.

On Wilder Terrace, in the vicinity of the ball fields, a section of the existing water main runs under the proposed curb on the north side of the street and will be abandoned; a new section of water main will be installed as its replacement away from the proposed curb. The water main on Braddock Street (Henley to Alpha) will be replaced with a new plastic water main.

LR continued, RG&E Gas will install a section of new gas main to replace the existing gas main that runs under the proposed curb lines in the vicinity of 195 Wilder Terrace. They also plan to lower some of their services and mains that cross the proposed curb, where required throughout the project limits.

All private (i.e. gas, electric, cable, fiber, telephone) utility upgrades are coordinated ahead of time and will be performed ahead of the street construction project so that there are no street cuts performed after the new pavement is installed. Water, sewer, stormwater and street lighting improvements will be included as part of the street construction project.

If there are any concerns or questions related to changing the existing parking regulations, you may contact Erik Frisch, Transportation Specialist with the City who can answer your questions and determine if further action is required through the Traffic Control Board (TCB). Erik's contact information is located on the backside of the agenda.

LR recapped by stating changes to the plans were made based on feedback from the first public meeting. Those changes include widening two (2) additional feet on the west side of Alpha Street between Beach Ave and Meriden Street from 24 ft. to 26 ft.; removing the proposed sidewalk on the north side of Meriden (Alpha to Wilder); maintaining the driveway openings on the north side of Meriden (Alpha to Wilder); and adding recessed parallel parking on both sides of Wilder Terrace near the ball fields. The recessed parallel parking areas will be provided in place of the County Parks' existing gravel parking area adjacent to the CYAA ball fields. Approximately 18 parallel parking spaces are proposed on the south side and 11 parallel parking spaces on the north side. The existing width of Wilder is approximately 20 ft. adjacent to the ball fields and is proposed to be widened to 22 ft. with 8 ft. wide parking areas on the north and south sides. A new sidewalk is proposed along the south side of Wilder Terrace and will tie into the existing walks on Alpha to the west and Wilder to the east.

During construction, two-way traffic will be maintained throughout the project and flaggers will be provided as needed. AG stated when the new curbs are installed, residents will be required to park on the street for about a day or two while the concrete that holds the curb in place is cured. Once curb is set, the Contractor will provide temporary access to driveways by placing crushed stone in the trench until the road is paved.

AG added, before construction, there will be a construction public meeting with the contractor, project manager and resident engineer. During construction, the resident engineer will provide full time inspection during construction hours. Any questions, concerns or problems would be directed at the resident engineer. Construction phone numbers will be provided to the public for their use in the event of an emergency.

The meeting was opened to questions:

Sarah Peters - 110 Alpha St.

Q. *What are the daily hours of construction? Also, will the curb at the corner ramps be replaced as well?*

A. Yes, they will be replaced within the project limits as shown in the presentation display. We will also be providing additional ramps at corners where needed for better accessibility in crossing the street.

The project will include upgrades to the accessible curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. There are two corner takings required to bring the ramps at those corners into compliance with ADA. The curbs at the ramps will be installed flush with the pavement. "Dimples" (raised bumps) will be installed at all ramps in the project. AG added that the contractors generally will start at 7 am and finish around 3 pm. They usually will not work on weekends unless of an emergency or special event. If they do, they have to get a special dispensation to work weekends or holidays. They try to avoid weekend work.

Cheryl Enders - 329 Beach Av.

Q. *Is Braddock St. going to be widened for two-way traffic as stated in the first meeting?*

A. The first public meeting was held to present the conceptual design to the public intending to get feedback on the changes we were proposing (i.e. converting Braddock to two-way traffic; adding sidewalk on the north side of Meriden). Based on the feedback we received, Braddock Street will remain one-way at the same width of 20 ft., but new curbs and sidewalks will still be installed; no sidewalk will be installed on the north side of Meriden.

Elizabeth Schnell - 31 Braddock St.

Q. *What is the project schedule? How do I know if my water is safe? I am concerned as I have small children.*

A. Construction is proposed to begin in spring of 2018 and should be substantially complete by fall of 2018. If we began construction this year, it would be in late summer which will not allow enough time for the project to be finished before winter. A winter shutdown would be necessary and work would then resume in the spring in 2018. To avoid the extra cost and mess of construction during the winter months, we are waiting until spring of 2018.

(KW) The water mains are not lead and there is no lead present in the water. Water samples taken from the hydrants comply with the EPA and monthly reporting is done for the State. Residents can call 311 or 585-428-7500 Rochester Water Bureau to find out more information on water safety.

Dan Church - 85 Wilder Ter.

Q. *Why is the project delayed?*

A. After the first public meeting, we began preliminary design and found many zoning and driveway related issues that needed to be reviewed and addressed. The north side of Meriden (Alpha to Wilder) also caused delay in review of how to address the concerns with those driveways. Meanwhile, other projects took precedence while those issues were being reviewed.

Q. *Will valves for each house also be replaced along with the portions of water main to be replaced?*

A. (KW) The valves in the lawn areas (or on the house side of the sidewalks) are called curb stops and they will be replaced along with the lead and galvanized water services.

Q. *When the new curbs are to be installed, will I receive warning ahead of time or will I just be stuck and unable to leave my house until the work is done?*

A. Typically, the contractors will hand out notices to the residents 24 to 48 hours before they perform the work.

Q. *I'm concerned about the age of the street as it heaves in front of my house. I saw some holes were bored. Are you going to dig up the whole section of the road or just resurface?*

A. The reconstruction limit of Wilder Terrace was modified since the first public meeting. Originally we anticipated reconstructing the section near the ball fields only. After review of the borings we received, we extended the limit to Meriden Street. Wilder from Alpha to Meriden will be boxed out (all of the existing asphalt and stone will be removed and disposed of) and built back up with new crushed stone and asphalt (base, binder and top) layers.

Q. *What about the storm drains?*

A. We currently plan to replace the capstone catch basins in the rehabilitation sections of the project and all of the basins in the reconstruction sections of the project. The capstone basins are the ones that have a large flat stone that sits in the lawn area next to the catch basin. The reason for replacing those basins is because the opening itself is typically partially in the road and partially in the grass which is why the stone is there to cover the opening. Non-capstone basins are typically completely in the road. When we install the new curbs, the curb will run the entire length of the road along the edge of the road behind the catch basins. Capstones don't allow for placing the curb behind the basin. (AG) Also, the new catch basins will have a larger opening. Typically, the old box type catch basins are 12-inch long by 8-inch wide. The newer basins that will be installed are 3 ft. long by 2 ft. wide and will drain much better than the older ones.

George Lynch - 49 Meriden St.

Q. *Are you going to put down new asphalt over the old asphalt or install a new street in front of my house? How about curbs?*

A. Your property is outside the limits of the project. The project limit begins in front of your neighbor's property at 39 Meriden. The new curbs will transition to the existing curbs and the reconstruction will blend in seamlessly with the existing pavement.

John Metzger - 61 Braddock St.

Q. *Where will the contractors plan to stage their equipment and materials during the project?*

A. Once the project is awarded to a contractor (after it is advertised and bid), the contractor will negotiate with land owners in determining locations to stage their materials. That is not determined until after a contractor is on board.

Phil Enders - 329 Beach Av.

Q. *I have issues with parking on Braddock St., who do I call? Is it possible not to install full height curbs in front of my property?*

A. Typical street construction in the city will include the installation of granite stone curb. The standard curb height is 7 ¼ inches. At driveway openings, header curb will be installed which will have a curb reveal of 1 ½ inches. Any variation to your driveway width shown on the display would require Zoning approval. The letter you received should have the information you need to follow up with Zoning.

Donald Furiuso - 337 Beach Av.

Q. *The proposed driveway curb cut will not allow me enough space to maneuver my vehicle in and out from my driveway.*

A. Parking in the front yard is not allowed by our zoning regulations unless in front of a garage. The curb cut proposed is for side yard access. We suggest discussing your concerns with the Zoning office to determine what course of action is necessary to request a variance for front yard parking and a wider curb cut.

Dan St. James - 120 Alpha St.

Q. *I received two letters from the City with the same information about my driveway – one was certified and the other was not. The letter said I will get an 18 ft. wide driveway curb cut, which I'm happy with, but it also says that I have to apply for variance to keep the driveway at the existing width. I'm a little confused, do I need to apply for a variance?*

A. Duplicate letters were intentionally mailed out by our Permits office (one being certified) to make certain owners got the information on changes proposed to their driveway opening. The "Illegal Front Yard Parking" letters included a sketch of the proposed driveway width approved for installation. In addition, the sketch includes an area marked in red showing the illegal front yard parking area. If you disagree with the proposed driveway opening shown in the sketch, in your case Dan, the 18 ft. opening, and prefer to have your new driveway apron installed at the existing driveway width, say the existing width is 24 ft. wide, then you will need to apply for a variance.

Linda Patane - 10 Wilder Ter.

Q. *Can I have a wider driveway?*

A. Driveway width changes will need to be reviewed with Zoning to determine the course of action required.

Bill Stuhler - 17 Alpha St.

Q. *I have the same problem. I want my driveway made wider.*

A. The City's Zoning office will need to review your case.

Lisa Dahl/John Libertore - 32 Meriden St.

Q. *What will happen to my driveway?*

A. Property owners on the north side of Meriden between Alpha and Wilder will be receiving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was placed in the mail last night which basically states the City agrees to allow, in your special case, parking in the rear yard. The City understands the hardship presented to the owners who no longer have parking access to the front of their house since the removal of Goodger's Park, a private road that allowed access to the front of the home.

The meeting broke up and a line of individuals formed to speak with the Director of Zoning to discuss their questions and concerns regarding the driveway letters they received.

There were no further recordable questions or comments. The meeting was adjourned. The above represents my understanding of the topics discussed at this meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Y. Reyes  
Engineer II/Street Design

LYR:vp

xc: file  
Z. Lagonegro  
J. Symonds  
K. Waelder  
A. Giglio  
V. Phommavanh

g:\proj\std\alpha street group pc 12110\mtgs\public\2-8-17 public mtg #2\alpha publicmtgmin 2-8-17.docx