

## EDGEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY GROUP MEETING NOTES

17 May 2017

7:00 PM

Edgewood Cafeteria

### Attendees

- NSSD Board President Eric Ephraim
- NSSD Director of Facilities John Fuhrer
- NSSD Chief Technology Officer John Petzeke
- City Councilman Alyssa Knobel
- City Manager Ghida Neukirch
- Deputy Chief Tim Wilinski
- Doug Fair, Planning Resources (Landscape AIA)
- George Dreger, PE, Eriksson Engineering Associated Ltd.
- 8 residents

John Fuhrer reviewed a PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the following:

- Background and purpose of the Ring Road, how the Road would be used, the emergency access road and other site improvements planned;
- Construction Schedule;
- No Wetland Impact;
- Drainage plan;
- Landscape Plan + additional landscaping (8' pines) would be planted along the north property line for a total of 72 pines based on pure linear distance, 10' apart.

### Public & District/City Feedback

#### Landscape Plan

- Residents noted a tremendous improvement to the landscape plan. Inquiry about additional landscaping that could be planted so the residents don't have to wait 10 years for maximum benefit. The landscape architect indicated that the maximum amount of landscaping will be planned with sensitivity not to overplant so the material is not "suffocated".
- Inquiry when the residents will see the final landscape plan. It was noted that the improved landscaping and the framework of the landscaping would be set forth in the Intergovernmental Agreement to reflect the intent of the residents. The landscape plan will be emailed to the Advisory Group in advance.
- What is the landscaping proposed? Pines, evergreens, spruce, hemlock and fir species. A variety of species is recommended to ensure the success of the trees and provide the desired results. Resident recommendation to have trees that grow taller, faster.

#### Chaucer Road Gate

- The District indicated that the gate would be earth tone to blend with the environment. Resident recommendation to make the fence wood versus metal. The District will review the material option and follow-up at the next meeting.
- The District and the City are working together on the mechanics of the system. It was suggested that any mechanics be screened. This request can be accommodated.

- It was suggested that there be no signage on the gate; the rendering sign is white with red lettering. The resident was amenable to reflectors versus the sign. The City and District will review the request.
- Request that the gate be vertical versus horizontal to blend with the environment. The District will explore this option.

#### Construction

- The construction staging area will be on School District property only; not along Chaucer.
- The road would take 3-4 weeks and the detention should take approximately one week.
- The City indicated that construction hours are regulated by the City's Municipal Code. Construction hours at 7 AM to 7 PM, Monday through Friday and 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturday. The District contractors may not work these hours; these are the permitted construction hours in the community.
- The construction staging area will be reviewed by City staff.
- The limited use of the road will be set forth in the IGA.
- Who maintains the power line? ComEd is responsible for maintenance of the power line. The District is required to provide access to the power line.

#### Site Plan

- Concern with the improved sidewalk connecting to Chaucer; this is contrary to the public feedback and Plan & Design Commission meeting. The concern is that an improved sidewalk will attract an increased number of users. The type of material of the proposed sidewalk was discussed.
- The ring road will be operational 30 minutes before school and 30 minutes after school.

#### Traffic Impact

- Concern with drop off and pick up zone at Chaucer/Thackeray. Discussion regarding education and enforcement options. The Police Department will have personnel on site at the onset of the school and throughout the year. A parking (standing/stopping) prohibition could be explored if there is resident interest. The restriction could be for a set time frame in the AM and PM to reflect the time that the vehicles would access the neighborhood.
- Recommendation to have the IGA reflect that the District and City will take appropriate means to prohibit drop off and pick up at Chaucer. This can be accommodated.
- The group discussed the ring road design. The District indicated that there is a designated pick up and drop off location. The District will have approximately 6-9 traffic aides.

#### Engineering

- Inquiry if the drainage will be removed along the north property line. There will be some clearing along the line; the grading will not change on the property line.
- Concern with flooding and drainage to the north; resident limited to planting because of water build-up. The District offered a site walk to the resident's property.

#### Other issues

- Has anyone consulted with realtors about the impact of the road on the home values? The District indicated that the question would be asked.
- Concern with debris along the tree line. It is believed that when the dumpster lids are removed, trash blows into the field and neighborhood. It was recommended that the District

establish a regular maintenance schedule. The District has a work order system whereby a regular cleaning cycle will be established.

- Concern with idling vehicles. It was stated that signage and education will be provided; the vehicles will also be in queue and not be waiting for students along the ring road (the gate will be closed until it is permissible to pass at the specified time).
- The Advisory Group will be amended in the draft IGA to reflect the homes within the Chaucer area that ends into Edgewood's property.

### **Next Steps**

1. Notes from this meeting will be emailed to attendees and posted on the City and District web sites.
2. The draft IGA will be emailed to the neighbors for their review. The District will formally consider the IGA at the School Board meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>; the City will consider the IGA at their meeting on June 12<sup>th</sup>. The draft IGA will be emailed to Advisory Group members in advance of placing the agreement on a public agenda.
3. The District has requested a landscape plan from their consultant to reflect the illustrations discussed at the Advisory Group meeting. The Landscape Plan will be shared with the neighbors upon receipt.
4. The next meeting of the Advisory Group will be held in mid-July.