



City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 22, 2013

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: RASHAD M. YOUNG, CITY MANAGER 

FROM: RICHARD J. BAIER, P.E., LEED AP, ~~DIRECTOR~~, T&ES 

SUBJECT: EISENHOWER AVENUE WIDENING AND ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) is continuing the design process for a roadway improvement project on Eisenhower Avenue between Mill Road and Holland Lane.

The proposed widening of Eisenhower Avenue between Holland Lane and Stovall Street was identified in the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan (EESAP) which sets out in detail the City's goals and objectives for the project, which will create a multi-modal environment and promote safety for pedestrians and motorists.

The final build-out plan envisioned Eisenhower Avenue as a six (6) lane roadway, accommodating three (3) travel lanes and bike facilities in each direction. The roadways will be separated by a tree-lined median with left turn bays and accentuated on both sides by wide active sidewalks. The roadway improvements were initiated through the development forecasts of the Eisenhower Valley in the early 2000's and the VDOT Woodrow Wilson Bridge project, which included access to northbound 495 from Mill Road. The project was identified and funded in the VDOT Six Year plan as an urban project.

As a result of limited right-of-way in some locations and a slower development build-out than was originally anticipated, the City revisited the scope of the project and made a decision to phase the construction of the roadway. The full build-out condition, as described above, will be completed by developers as a condition of development.

The project limits for the first phase of construction are from Mill Road to Holland Lane. The improvements include construction of an additional left turn lane on westbound Eisenhower Avenue at Mill Road, widening the receiving lanes on Mill Road, streetscape improvements at Mill Road and Holland Lane, and removing the traffic circle at Holland Lane and constructing a "T" intersection. These improvements are consistent with the Eisenhower East Small Area Plan. The remaining project limits from Stovall Street to Mill Road and between Elizabeth Lane and Hooffs Run Drive will be constructed by developers in the future as parcels redevelop. A plan view of the project improvements is attached.

The project is funded with State Urban Funds which consist of Federal (80%) and State (18%) funds with a City (2%) match. The City's share for this project was budgeted in prior year funding. The total funding for the project is \$7 million. The project is scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2014. The construction duration is anticipated to be eighteen months.

On April 4, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., T&ES will hold a design public hearing at the Lee Center in the Gold Room, to discuss the proposed project improvements and project schedule, answer questions and review the plans, exhibits, and environmental document. Notification is being made via newspaper advertisement, E-news, Facebook, Twitter, the City's website, and weekly & official events. Letters will be mailed out to all the businesses and residential buildings along Eisenhower Avenue, in addition to various neighborhood and civic association groups in the project area. This meeting will provide an opportunity for staff to receive public comments on the project. Comments can also be submitted via email until April 18, 2013.

Following this meeting, staff will compile all of the public comments, generate responses and present these to council, along with a Resolution to proceed with the project.

If you have any questions or would like a briefing on this project, please contact me or Emily Baker, City Engineer at 703-746-4025.

Attachment

cc: Mark Jinks, Deputy City Manager
 Emily Baker, P.E. City Engineer, T&ES Engineering Division
 Maurice Daly, P.E. Division Chief, T&ES Engineering Division
 Lisa Jaatinen, P.E., Civil Engineer IV, T&ES Engineering Division
 Tony Castrilli, Director, Office of Communications & Public Information
 Kathleen Leonard, Public Information Officer, T&ES Strategic Management Services