

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

SR 140 ARNOLD MILL RD AT CR 27 NEW PROVIDENCE RD

SR 372 BIRMINGHAM HWY AT CR 27 PROVIDENCE / NEW PROVIDENCE RD

CAC MEETING #1 MEETING MINUTES



Date: January 14, 2010
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: City Hall, Executive Conference Room

Attendees:

Mary Peace	Brad Robinson	Steve Bitney: Street Smarts
Wilson Borden	Mike Stevens	Kari Ward: Street Smarts
Yvonne Latorre	Kevin O'Sullivan	Erika Becker: Street Smarts
Cathy Rhea	Sara Leaders: Milton	
Star Voigt	Carter Lucas: Milton	

Minutes:

- Carter Lucas began the meeting at 6:00 p.m. by welcoming everyone and giving a brief project introduction. He also discussed the purpose of CAC meeting #1, which is to verify that what was being presented as existing conditions is actually happening.
- Self introductions were made by committee members, City of Milton staff and Street Smarts staff.
- Erika Becker gave an overview of the public involvement process for the project and discussed the purpose of the four CAC meetings and the Public Information Open House (PIOH).
- Several of the CAC members stated that these intersection projects have already been through the review process and wanted to know why we're doing it again. It was explained that the intersection projects were formerly under the authority of Fulton County. When the City of Milton incorporated, the projects were reassigned to the City. As mandated by GDOT, the review process has to be undertaken again as City of Milton projects.
- CAC members asked if the time to get the project approved could be shortened. Steve Bitney stated that we have to follow the GDOT process since we're using

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GDOT funds for the improvements, so we will not be able to shorten the process. To modify the review process and timeline the City of Milton would have to pay for the project in full.

- Erika Becker explained that counts were collected at each intersection with video cameras to determine the existing conditions at each location.
- The comment was made that many residents tell their children to avoid the intersection of Arnold Mill and New Providence due to safety concerns, so the counts may not be accurate.
- Erika Becker then presented the existing and future conditions simulations for the AM peak hour at the intersection of Arnold Mill Road and New Providence Road. It was noted that New Providence Road is currently operating at LOS F and will continue to decline into the future. Many of the committee members commented that traffic on Arnold Mill Road is actually much heavier than it appears in the simulation.
- Other questions asked about this simulation included:
 - What is the peak hour? *The AM peak hour is from 7:00 am to 8:00 am.*
 - When were the counts taken? *Counts were collected on Wednesday November 11, 2009.*
 - What are the plans for future widening on SR 140 and will future plans be considered when designing this project? *Arnold Mill is a GDOT roadway and any plans to widen the road are long range. Funds have not been identified for widening. As a result, this intersection will not be designed to tie into any future projects.*
- A CAC member requested the City look into a “No-Left Turn” sign on SR 140 SB to improve conditions for vehicles waiting to turn left from New Providence onto SR 140.
- A CAC member commented that they had heard a signal was going to be installed at the intersection of Green Road and Arnold Mill Road. Other members commented that they didn’t think a signal was needed at this location. Carter Lucas stated that he was not aware of plans to install a signal at this location.
- The comment was made that a temporary signal could be installed at this location as was done by the City of Roswell at Rucker Road and Crabapple.
- Additional issues identified by the CAC for the SR 140/New Providence Road intersection include:
 - Vehicles turning left from SR 140 onto New Providence cause additional delay, there is a need for an increased police presence, dump trucks are speeding, it is more difficult in the afternoon to turn left from New Providence onto SR 140.
- Erika Becker then presented the existing and future conditions simulations for the AM peak hour at the intersection of Birmingham Highway and Providence/New

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Providence Road. It was noted that several legs of this intersection fail under existing conditions and that the level of service of the intersection will continue to fail into the future.

- Safety at this intersection was also discussed. Committee members commented that there is limited sight distance and many won't drive through the intersection at night due to safety concerns.
- A CAC member requested accident data, which the consultant agreed to email to the committee.
- The CAC committee requested that the City look into short-term improvements at both intersections and get additional information from GDOT regarding such improvements.
- A CAC member asked about Fulton County Schools installing a temporary measure at Birmingham Highway and Providence Road due to the districting of the elementary schools and the routes that require difficult movements at the intersection. The response was that Fulton County Schools do not contribute to off-site improvements.
- Additional issues identified by the CAC for the Birmingham Highway/Providence Road intersection include:
 - Difficult movements for access to schools due to redistricting, sight distance, speeds approaching the intersection and accidents.
- Kari Ward then presented the alternatives that were previously considered for the two intersections when Fulton County was leading the projects. She also discussed the new GDOT requirement to analyze the feasibility of a roundabout at each location.
- Erika Becker indicated that preliminary roundabout analysis shows that a roundabout will not operate adequately at either location with one lane. A multi-lane roundabout would be required. CAC members commented that a multi-lane roundabout may be confusing for drivers.
- Other alternatives presented by various CAC members include:
 - Reroute traffic to Cox Road and cul-de-sac New Providence.
 - Design a split interchange at Birmingham Highway. (Distance between the two intersections would have to meet GDOT requirements.)
- The consultant agreed to evaluate these additional alternatives along with the alternatives presented in the Fulton County concept report. Their finding will be presented to the CAC at the February 18th meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.