

Charter Township of Orion

2525 Joslyn Road., Lake Orion MI 48360; (248) 391-0304; Fax: (248) 391-0332

Website: www.oriontownship.org

Orion Safety Path Advisory Committee - Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 8, 2017 - 7:00 p.m.

Township Offices

AGENDA

- **Call to Order**
 - Time: 7:01

2. Roll Call

Committee Member	Present	Absent w/Notice	Absent
Brinkmann, Michael (Treasurer)	X		
Cook, Tony (Vice Chair)			X
Cotter, B.C. (Alternate)	X		
Flood, Michael (Non-Voting)			
Katers, Jessica (OHM - Twp Engr)	X at 7:05		
Mark Landis from OHM (guest)	X		
Lee, Gerry (Chair)	X		
Reynolds, Taylor	X		
Richards, Jerry	X		
Steele, Donni (Board Representative)	X		
Stout, Jeff (Operations Director)	X		
Zielinski, Jenn (Secretary)	X		

- **Determination of a Quorum (min. 4)**

Quorum met.

4. Approval of Minutes for June 13, 2017 Meeting

- Motioned by: Richards, with updates from Taylor, Steele and Brinkman
- Seconded by: Cotter

5. Approval of Agenda for August 8, 2017 Meeting

- Motioned by: Steele
- Seconded by: Taylor

6. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items - 3 Minute limit per person

- Stout – Village president Ken VanPortfliet would like to discuss the Safety Paths in the village. Stout recommended that some village residents attend a meeting and/or request to join the Safety Path Committee

7. New Business

A. E. Clarkston Rd Pathway Project –

- Mark Landis who has been tasked with researching the final connector piece for the Iron Bell Trail on East Clarkston Road from Kern Road to Lapeer Road (M-24). The research has been designed to apply for a tap grant; however, it needs to be determined which side of Clarkston Road the path would be installed due to the topography, easements, wetland and how to connect the trail to the Paint Creek Trail. Currently, the proposed path is just about 1 mile or 5200' with the assumption that the trail will cross the Paint Creek at Rudds Mill dam. The path would be required to be 10' wide with the possibility of a 14' wide pedestrian bridge including weight requirements. Initial meetings would include field walks, hydraulic studies to avoid the flood plain and Geotech investigations for the substructure cost of the boardwalk. Stout asked what the maximum grant funds available for this project. Landis advised approximately 2 million with an 80/20 match on construction costs. Estimated total cost is 2.1 million with a contingency for engineering fees which are not included in the grant. SEMCOG, MDOT and OHM can help along the way to secure funding of this size. There is currently support for a project of this size from some of the members of the Township Board. Steele asked if the path has to be paved. Landis advised that the path would be paved just up to the bridge at the creek crossing. The bridge would be constructed with a timber deck and steel fabricated style trusses. Katers added during the discussion that there were no issues with water mains. Stout wanted to know how much of the proposed path would require easement acquisitions. Landis indicated for a path on the N side of Clarkston Road there were roughly 16 parcels, but that that would still need to be fully determined before applying for the grant. Richards asked where the money coming from now for a quote being prepared by OHM, Landis & Katers advised that the quote preparation is included as a part of the normal fee for Township. Steele wanted to know which would be more cost effective, continuing the path down Clarkston Road, bypassing the creek, or building a bridge at the creek. Landis indicated that it would be more costly to install a path entirely down Clarkston Road, but that it is possible. Discussion continued with regards to the engineering cost that are not covered throughout the process. Katers indicated that the engineering cost is about 25% of a project, but contingency costs for the engineering fees are built into the estimate. Katers advised that approximately 85K of engineering cost are not included in the 2.1 million quote and that with the estimated contingency costs for the construction and engineering fees would put the project closer to an

estimated 2.2 million. The Township would be responsible for the engineering fees and 20% of construction costs with grant approval. Katers estimated a total of \$600K to \$700K that the Township would be responsible for after the grant approval. Richards wanted to make sure that this discussion was just to add the path to the Master Plan and to reiterate that this discussion is just to identify the cost to the Township associated with this project. Stout advised that the Township is waiting on the outcome of discussions from meetings with SEMCOG & MDOT. Katers added that Orion Township has never applied for a Federal Tap Grant; and that tap grants are rolling and can be applied for whenever. However, SEMCOG has 4 dates throughout the year for applications and that the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is the gate keeper to SEMCOG funds. Based on this, Katers recommended that should Orion Township move forward with the project, the grant application should be submitted in the late fall/early winter to allow for the surveying to be completed prior to any snowfall. Katers also advised that the design & bidding process takes longer than typical projects, and that there will likely be no construction until 2019. Brinkmann asked if the 20% for construction costs and engineering fees would all the come out from the Safety Path Millage funds? Stout said no, there are other ways to raise funds for the project. Reynolds added that for example the Township could offer corporate sponsorships, advertising on the bridge, namesake, etc...

8. Pending Business

A. Library Displays/Fall Chamber Expo - Cotter

- Cotter gave a report following the display at the Orion Township Library indicating that the bug spray and insect deterrent hockey pucks give-a-ways were all taken. However, she is not sure how long the give-a-ways lasted at the weeklong display. Cotter indicated that the banner was permitted by the head librarian and that the banner with the tripod display frame and table skirted looked nice and professional. Cotter did indicate that the Safety Paths needs a new poster of the paths and trails map, that the existing one is in bad shape. Stout suggested that we obtain a new poster map and frame it, Katers agreed. For future displays, Cotter would like to see more photos from residents enjoying the paths and trails as opposed to just a map and some brochures. Cotter did request to set the display up for a second run this year (in September), but was denied. Per Joyce, all of the available weeks have been spoken for. The library displays run from the week after the Fourth of July to the end of September.
- Cotters discussed the Orion Area Chamber of Commerce Shop Local Expo taking place Thursday, October 18th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Lake Orion High School Fieldhouse. Cotter will work the booth, but would like to include T-shirts and backpacks in addition to the maps/brochures. Brinkmann offered to work the booth with Cotter. Cotter asked if we can get the bike safety bells again for the Shop Local Expo. Steele advised she will see if she can get them from Paint Creek Committee again. Stout added that the Safety Path Committee should get some SWAG promoting our paths/trails and to use as give-a-ways at these community wide events.

B. Financial Update – Brinkmann

- Received & filed
- Stout wondered if the \$9900 was accurate. Katers clarified yes, with one more slall invoice

C. M-24 Overlay Improvements (Harman to Golden Gate) - Stout / Katers

- Reynolds indicated that the barricades are gone. However, Stout added that the project is not yet complete.
- Stout inquired regarding the irrigation repairs on the East side of Lapeer Road (M-24) in front of the Roundtree subdivision entrance. Katers offered to research to find out if this is a covered cost, but added that irrigation is not supposed to be in the right of way.
- Lee questioned if we should retain this item on the agenda and Katers said yes; until MDOT completes the repairs.

D. Silverbell Road Pathway – Stout/Katers

- Katers indicated that the project is coming along well. AT&T has been contacted to take care of the low hanging wires and she will provide update for completion of the project in the September meeting.
- Stout advised the Committee that the Mobil gas station on the Northeast corner of Silverbell and Lapeer Road (M-24) has been granted permission to redevelop the property and that the installation of a Safety Path is included in the redevelopment of the site.

E. Clarkston Road - N. Side Thistle Valley to Pine Tree -Katers

- Katers advised that the construction is progressing and the boardwalk is in progress. However, the boardwalk will likely not be completed until the end of September and that the paving will hopefully will be completed in early October.

F. Clarkston Road–N Side Polly Ann Trail to Thistle Valley-Katers

- Katers indicated that Superior is excavating the site; however, the State is currently holding up the process.
- Reynolds inquired about the replacement of timber walls. Katers said yes, the timber wall will be replaced, but it will depend upon the completion of the boardwalk. Brinkman wondered why the boardwalk is taking so long. Katers added that the contractor is limited with the crew he has working on the project and is trying to get a second crew to help. The goal is to have the project completed by the end of the year, but it may carry into the spring of 2018 for completion.

G. Indianwood Ph III – N. Side, Paint Creek to Jackson Oaks – Inactive Placeholder

- Katers indicated that half of this project is in conjunction with the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) project.

- Steele suggested that since the SRTS project will be working at this location why doesn't the Safety Path Committee take advantage of resources when they are there working on the SRTS initiative, e.g. surveyors, engineers, etc...
- Katers advised that this path will likely not be worked on until 2019, but that later this year she will be provided further details/timeline for the SRTS project.
- Brinkmann reminded the committee of the easement acquisitions that will be required to complete the path. Katers suggested that the Township could start hold public meetings again for the easements acquisitions.
- Steele motion to reactivate this item and to combine Indianwood Phase III project with SRTS project & to continue securing easements, second by Reynolds. Passed.

H. Indianwood Ph IV – S. Side, Joslyn to Fernhurst – Inactive Placeholder

- Inactive placeholder
- Joslyn Road Path N of Heights Road (grant) - Katers
 - Katers advised that they are waiting for the report card on the grant application and if any improvements/adjustments need to be made to the application they have until mid-October to do so.
 - Reynolds inquired as to the total width of the path? Katers indicated they will maintain 8' but some areas will require a 6' wide path.

J. Pathway Maintenance – Stout

- Bridge work is on the list of items to complete, but staffing is limited and will continue to try to get staff out to continue to work on the repairs.
- Brinkmann added that on the East side of Baldwin, North of the Barn Meadow subdivision there are trees that need to be trimmed.
- Lee asked if we/the township are responsible for mowing on the North side of Clarkston Road, West of Baldwin? Stout advised no that is private property.
- Lee also commented that East of Heather Lakes subdivision on the North side of Clarkston Road there is a sink hole in path (in front of the yellow barn house) and it appears it is getting larger. Stout said he would have a staff member investigate.

K Millage Renewal / Master Plan/BOT Presentation

- Steele advised that Cook was not able to present and suggested that someone from the Safety Path Committee come to present to the Township Board on August 21st or September 5th.
- Items to include in the presentation is to show how the funds have been spent and upcoming projects, completed projects and it was suggested that we use pictures.
- Stout suggested that we wait and see what Cook has prepared to provide to another presenter. Committee agreed.
- Brinkmann wonder who would be writing the Safety Path millage proposal(s). Steele advised it would be written by an attorney and the language will depend on what the ask is. Lee suggested that the millage be written both ways: a new millage and renewal, and that a recommendation be made to the Township Board trustees.

- Reynolds spoke in favor of a new millage given the additional miles of Safety Path and the additional maintenance to the newly installed paths to keep them safe.
- Lee suggested that we obtain the maintenance financial from the Township and that Barb should be able to assist with this. Steele added that the budget workshops will begin in September and can be discussed by the Township then.
- Zielinski added that the Committee wait for community survey to be compiled to see what the residents want. Steel advised that she will provide the survey findings once complete.
- Stout asked if we can determine a maintenance cost per mile or per pat. Katers suggested that we use the 2014 pathway maintenance contract for figures. She added that other communities have done a renewal and then the following year a maintenance millage.
- Zielinski inquired as to why the Committee is targeting the primary election and not the general election. Steele advised that it is to allow for opportunity in the general election in case the millage does not pass in the primary election.
- Brinkmann suggested that we tabled this discussion until the budget workshops begin, the community survey is available and the 2014 maintenance figures are available. Additionally, we need to obtain the presentation notes from Cook to ensure that the presentation includes the Priority 1 project costs estimates.
- Kater's added that to install a Safety Path, for every 100' the cost is approximately 10K.

L. Safe Routes to Schools

- Katers advised that the application has been submitted and is being reviewed. She will provide updates to the Committee as they are received from the coordinator.
- Stout inquired about the Village allocation wondering if it is all gone? Katers advised that Blanche Sims will receive a flashing crossing at the crosswalk that already exists and that easement acquisitions were not possible.

M. 5 Year Construction Plan – Finalize 5 Year Priority Status

- Brinkmann & Steele worked together and that is the spreadsheet to use.
- Brinkmann advised that the estimated costs and lengths are outdated. Katers advised she can provide estimates once the Committee approves the 5-year plan.
- The Committee reviewed the first page of the 5-year priority status spreadsheet and tabled remaining items for next meeting.
- Steele recommended that we review all of the priority 1 items in the September meeting.

Motion made by Brinkmann to extend the meeting to 9:07. Seconded by Richards. Passed.

9. Organization Reports

A. Planning Commission - Katers/Stout

- Katers indicated that the Orion Commons subdivision on the Southwest corner of Scripps Road and Lapeer Road (M-24) will be completed.
- Katers also indicated that the Silver Spruce subdivision path will be completed as well.

B. Paint Creek / Polly Ann – Steele

- Steele advised that the Rhoades Road parking lot for the Polly Ann Trail has been cleared and they are now looking into a picnic table and running water.
- Steele advised that on the Northside of the bridge on the Polly Ann Trail there is now a park side bench and picnic table in memory of Sue Bellair.
- Steele advised that the parking lot for the Polly Ann trail on Indianwood Road has received new millings.
- Steele advised that the Paint Creek Committee is bidding for bridge work to replace the old trestle & that they received approval for a tap grant to for the project running from Atwater Street through the lumber yard to Paint Creek Trail.

10. Committee Comment

- Motion by Lee to forego Committee comment due to the time. Second by Steele. Passed.

11. Adjournment

- Time: 9:05

Next Meeting: September 12, 2017 @ 7:00 pm @ Township Offices

In the spirit of compliance with the American with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Township at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting if requesting accommodations.