

Memo

Transportation Commission 11/14/2013

TO: Ashland Transportation Commission

FROM: Brandon Goldman, Senior Planner
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RE: Normal Avenue Neighborhood Plan
Continuation of September 26th and October 24th, 2013 Transportation Commission Discussion.

Summary

On September 26th and October 24th the Transportation Commission took public testimony and reviewed the Final Draft Neighborhood Plan for the 94 acre north Normal Avenue area. Following staff questions and the close of public comments the commission continued their discussion and deliberation to a special meeting scheduled on November 14th, 2013.

Background

During the October 24th Transportation Commission meeting individual commissioners raised a number of issues that warranted further consideration before providing a recommendation on the Normal Avenue Neighborhood Plan's mobility framework. To provide a factual basis to help the Commission evaluate these issues the scope of work undertaken in the Future Traffic Analysis prepared by SCJ Alliance which was presented to the Transportation Commission on September 26th has been amended to provide data and an analysis relating to the following:

- An evaluation of future traffic impacts along East Main St. and Clay Street at the intersections of the proposed access points to the plan area.
 - The amended Future Traffic Analysis will include a graphic (map) that shows projected traffic volumes at all site access points at full build out.
 - A summary of the site access traffic control and any mitigation needs relating to East Main Street.
- A summary explanation of the multimodal travel assumptions used in developing the analysis.
- An evaluation of the feasibility of a new road connection at the location of the existing driveway used to provide access to both the school bus turnaround and Grace Point Church.
 - Traffic counts at this intersection were collected between October 31 through November 3rd, 2013.
 - Intersection turning movements at the peak PM hour were collected on November 5, 2013.
 - Traffic modeling will be completed for this potential intersection including conducting an operational analysis for this location projected to the year 2038.



- An evaluation of the feasibility of a new local road extension of the existing unimproved Normal Avenue due north to intersect with East Main Street immediately adjacent to Temple Emek Shalom.
 - Potential traffic volumes for this potential intersection projected to the year 2038.
 - An extension of the existing Normal Avenue local road is not presently proposed in the current draft plan presented to the Transportation Commission and Planning Commission for consideration (dated Sept 24, 2013). Staff is awaiting full commission reviews and recommendations prior to developing any alternate scenario as part of development of a final plan. However to provide the Commissions with data relating to projected volumes, were such a connection to be made in lieu of the school bus drive location, the consultant traffic engineer has been charged to provide peak hour forecasts and an operational analysis for such a potential extension.

Due to the compressed time between the Transportation Commission's October 24th meeting and this special meeting the above noted additions to the Future Traffic Analysis were not completed as of the date of writing this memo. However with all traffic counts now completed it is anticipated that these revisions will be completed by Tuesday November 12th, to be provided to the Commission electronically in advance of the meeting, and to be distributed at the special meeting on November 14, 2013. Further the consultant Traffic Engineer, Anne Sylvester, from SCJ Alliance will be available during the meeting via conference call to address any specific questions from the Commission.

At the October 24th meeting Transportation Commissioners requested that staff provide the following analysis:

- Review of Capital Improvements Plan, funding mechanisms, and cost estimates relating to East Main St improvements..
 - The Public Works Engineering division is preparing cost estimates relating to future East. Main Street improvements as necessary to meet the City standards for an Avenue as noted in the Transportation System Plan. These estimates will be presented at the special meeting.
- Address the proposed 90 degree turns as shown on the Draft Plan for the new Normal Neighborhood Collector to ensure flow of traffic is not impeded and that the neighborhood collector retains its identity as the primary connection from the rail road crossing to East Main Street.
 - With a formal recommendation from the Transportation Commission refinements to the street network to illustrate such objectives can be incorporated into the final draft plan.

Potential Motions

Staff is awaiting formal recommendations from the Transportation Commission and the Planning Commission prior to further modifying the proposed plan originally presented to the Transportation Commission on September 26th, 2013. The project objectives included providing for a local street grid



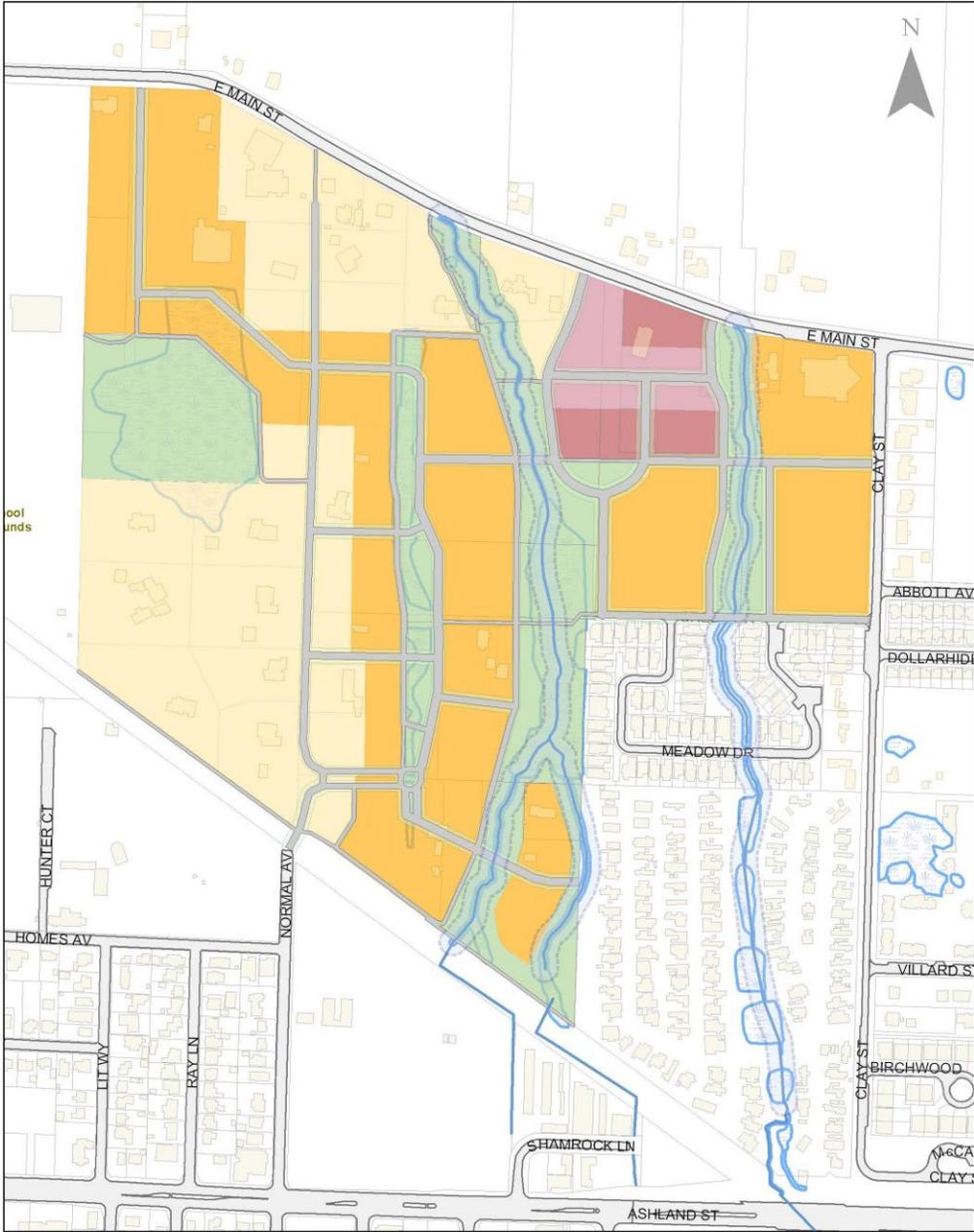
that includes connections to existing and planned street, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities outside the project area to more fully integrate the project area into the City transportation system, to provide for pedestrian and bicycle routes and facility improvements within the project area that will provide safe access to local schools, and to ensure the proposed mobility framework has adequate capacity to accommodate future development within the project area.

Upon finding the proposed plan achieves these transportation related objectives , including any suggested changes, the Transportation Commission can forward a recommendation to the Planning Commission and City Council that the Transportation System Plan (TSP) be amended accordingly.

ATTACHMENTS:

- **Transportation Commission Minutes 10/24/2013**
- **Packet materials provided on 9/26/2013**
 - Normal Avenue Neighborhood Plan
 - [Draft Final Plan](#)
 - [Land Use Zoning Map](#)
 - [Street and Open space Network](#)
 - [Pedestrian and Bicycle Network](#)
 - [Draft Future Traffic Conditions Report - Technical Memorandum \(SCJ Alliance Consulting\)](#)
 - [Transportation Existing Conditions Memo](#)
- **Letters Submitted to Transportation Commission 11/14/2013**
 - [DeMarinis letter and Exhibit submitted 10/31](#)
- **Letters presented to the Transportation Commission on 10/24/2013**
 - [DeMarinis letter and exhibits](#) (10/8)
 - [Meadowbrook Home Owners \(Anderson\) letter and exhibits](#)
 - [Ashland Meadows \(Skuratowicz\) letter](#)
 - [Koopman letter and exhibits](#)





**Normal Ave. Neighborhood Plan
Sept. 24, 2013, Discussion Draft**



- NA-01
- NA-02
- NA-03
- NA-03-C
- Park

Zone	gross acreage	net buildable
NA-01	28.06	13.29
NA-02	37.46	29.95
NA-03	2.79	2.79
NA-03-C	2.96	2.96
Openspace	22.25	0

