



The Borough of Elverson
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ELVERSON BOROUGH 2021 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN
PUBLIC HEARING DECEMBER 7, 2021

The Public Hearing for the review of the 2021 proposed Active Transportation Plan for the Borough of Elverson was held on December 7, 2021 and called to order at 6:00 PM by Council Member Merle Stoltzfus.

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members, Merle Stoltzfus, George Firrantello, Mike Trojecki, Mayor Bob Broderick, and Secretary/Treasurer, Lori Kolb

Also in attendance: Mark Gallant, CCPC, Rachael Griffith, CCPC, Task Force Members and Residents of Elverson Borough

Mr. Stoltzfus welcomed all in attendance, and explained that he was filling in for Council Member Bob Clements as speaker for the meeting. Mr. Stoltzfus introduced the task force committee, and Chester County Planning Commission Representatives in attendance. Mr. Stoltzfus explained that the purpose for the hearing was to present the draft Active Transportation Plan and provide a final opportunity for public comment prior to Borough Council Members consideration for adoption of the Plan. Mr. Stoltzfus explained that this project has been in process for approximately 18 months, and is a proposed master plan to expand further on what was in the Borough's 2014 Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Stoltzfus mentioned that as an urban center, the Active Transportation Plan grew out of a desire to expand the Borough's existing sidewalks and trails to provide safe places to walk. Mr. Stoltzfus said that this plan is about ideas for how the Borough can be more walkable in the future.

Mr. Stoltzfus explained that partial Grant funding for the project was provided by the Chester County Commissioners. Mr. Stoltzfus said that the Borough hired a team from the Chester County Planning Commission, and formed a Task Force, including Trails Committee, Borough Council, and Borough Planning Commission Members to assist in developing the plan.

Mark Gallant provided an overview of the Plan explaining it is a policy plan of ideas and concepts for proposed future walkability. Mr. Gallant explained that a lot of work needs to be done to implement the plan, and the health benefits for creating a more walkable and biking community.

Mr. Gallant reviewed the prior meetings that were held to create the Active Transportation Plan, along with the public surveys that were provided. Rachael Griffith reviewed the primary goal as being an affordable, safe access to inside and outside the Borough.

Racheal Griffith reviewed priority's 1 through 3 described in the plan as the following:

1. Intended to provide enough information for the Borough to begin pursuing implementation.
2. Projects being relatively low-cost to implement, that would further enhance walking connectivity.
3. Projects that would be unlikely to be implemented due to being of larger scale.

Ms. Griffith also provided additional detail information, as referenced in the Active Transportation Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public comments specific to the plan were related to a proposed trail connecting Summerfield to Livingood Park. The reasons for opposition to this trail included:

- Lack of necessity- people already walk there and it isn't a problem
- Maintenance concerns- maintenance cannot fall onto Homestead HOA
- Privacy concerns
- Concerns that Homestead HOA currently does not permit residents to plant vegetation that will serve as a screen/fence, so residents could not plant a buffer between their homes and the trail
- Feelings that people did not move to Summerfield for the walkability- that they moved there for the pastoral environment
- Request the plan be adopted without the Summerfield to Livingood Park connector trail

Other Public Comments, included, but were not limited to maintenance in general, with concern about leaving maintenance responsibilities to the Trail Committee and volunteers. There were additional comments in support of the concept of the plan, and enhancing walkability in general.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Merle Stoltzfus announced that Borough Council will consider adoption of the 2021 Active Transportation Plan at the Council Meeting immediately following the end of the hearing at Borough Hall at 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT:

Public Hearing was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully,

Lori Kolb, Secretary Treasurer