

Wasena Bridge Replacement

DATE AND TIME Thursday February 21, 2019 at 7:00pm

LOCATION Alexander Gish House, 641 Walnut Ave SW

SUBJECT Focus Group Meeting #2 (Old Southwest Community)

ATTACHED Agenda

List of community attendants

Comment Sheets

Meeting Notes completed during the meeting

This meeting was the second in a series of three, second round of neighborhood public meetings. The meeting was held at the Alexander Gish House at 7:00 pm and was part of a broader community meeting held regularly to discuss issues important to the community. Our presentation lasted about an hour.

Approximately 30 people attended the meeting(s). The presentation was started by city staff, followed by Mattern & Craig, Volkert, ECS and finished off by Rosales. The powerpoint presentation reintroduced the public to the project team, explained the stakeholder engagement process and revealed the data collected and comments that were obtained from the first round of community meetings.

Jessica Antos from ECS Limited spoke for about five minutes in regard to the Section 106 Compliance that is required for a project to receive federal funding.

Prior to the discussion of the concept bridge design, Volkert presented the results of the public engagement process to date and the future plans for the remaining public meetings.

The next portion of the presentation revealed the initial design concept for of the new bridge, presented by Nicolas Derycker from Rosales. The bridge footprint, organization, and conceptual form were presented. The initial design was well-received by the community and they are excited to continue to be part of the design process.

The meeting closed with a question and answer session. In addition to the questions and comments received verbally during the meeting a comment sheet was provided as well as a link to the project website (https://planroanoke.org/wasena-bridge/).

The meeting notes recorded during the meeting, sign-in sheets, and public comment sheets are attached, and are summarized below:

- The community has concerns about the construction phasing and the anticipated amount of time the bridge will remain closed.
- Pedestrian and Bicyclist connections from the bridge to the park and greenway remained a topic of concern
- Concerns regarding the impacts of closing the bridge will have on the newly established businesses in the area were expressed. Discussions with the business owners and laying out a plan for hosting events during construction are currently occurring and will be an ongoing process.
- The incorporation of local art on the bridge and at the approaches to the bridge are important to the Old Southwest Community.
- The approaches to the bridge were brought up numerous times. The intersections at each end of the bridge have their own challenges to ensure they provide safe and effective vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle connections.

Team Members participating in the meeting:

Josephus Johnson-Koroma, City of Roanoke Luke Pugh, City of Roanoke Chad Thomas, Mattern & Craig Mike Agee, Mattern & Craig Keith Weakley, Volkert Brendan August, Volkert Christopher Weir, Volkert Nicolas Derycker, Rosales Jessica Antos, ECS Limited

Next Steps:

Second Focus Group Meeting March 5 with Mt. View community

Welcome

Study and Design for the Wasena Bridge

Old Southwest Focus Group Meeting #2: February 21, 2019 @ 7:00pm

Location: Alexander Gish House, 641 Walnut Ave SW

This is the second meeting with the Old Southwest community. At this meeting, we will present a preliminary design for the bridge based on feedback received during our public outreach, and the typical technical evaluation and design process we described at our first meeting.

Separate meetings are held with three neighborhoods because each neighborhood has slightly different needs and perspectives.

Agenda for today's Focus Group Meeting

- 1. Purpose of the meeting (M&C)
- 2. Planned Stakeholder Engagement (Volkert)

First Round of Focus Group Meetings Second Round of Focus Group Meetings

- 2/7/19 Wasena
- 2/21/19 Old Southwest
- 3/5/19 Mt. View
- 3. Section 106 Compliance Impacts on Historic Properties (Volkert and ECS)
- 4. Existing Conditions (Volkert and Rosales)
- 5. Bridge Design (Rosales)
- 6. Solicit feedback (Rosales and Volkert)

Next Steps: City-wide Public Meeting: April, 2019 @ TBD

Display of preliminary bridge design

For additional information please visit

https://planroanoke.org/wasena-bridge/

WASENA MEETING 2.2

OLD SOUTHWEST 21 FEB 2019

- CAN THE PLANTING AREAS GREEN SPACES BE ENLARGED?

THE OSW SIDE BE ADDRESSED? HOW WILL TRAFFIC BE CALMED?

- HOW WILL THE STRUCTURAL MEMBERS OF THE BRIDGE BE DESIGNE
- WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE WINCHESTER STEPS?
- A HOW CAN YOU ACCESS THE BRIDGE FROM ELM/ KERDINAND, HOW CAN PEDS BE SAFE THERE?
- HOW CAN TURNS OFF BRIDGE BE ADDRESSED WITH TURN LANE REMOVED?
- WOULD THERE BE ROOM FOR A ROUNDABOUT? IS IT SOMETHING WE CAN LOOK INTO IMPLIMENTING
- WILL FERDINAND BE OPENED? IS IT PART OF THIS PROJECT?
- STEPS ARE TOO STEEP.
- CAN WE CONTINUE TO KEEP PUBLIC ART IN MIND FOR THIS DESTINATION? WHERE ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES
- LAN WE MAKE SURE THE BRIDGE IS HISTORICALLY APPROPRIATE.
- HOU WILL PEOPLE CROSS THE BRIDGE DURING CONST.

FEB 21 (CONT)

- CAN WE REPLACE THE STAIRS WITH A RAMP?
- WHAT WILL THE 3RD ROUND MEETING BE!
- WHAT IS THE DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE?
- WHAT IS THE NEW BRIDGES LIFE SPAN?
- HOW WILL BRIDGE CLOSURES BE REMEDIATED TO AVOID

 EXCESSIVE STRAINS ON SMALL BUSINESSES ARROW ADJACENT

 TO BRIDGE?
- WHERE WILL CONSTRUCTION BE STAGED ON NORTH SIDE OF BRIDGE
- WILL THERE BE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO OSW DURING CONST.