

**West Lindsey Street Widening (Berry Road to I-35)
March 15, 2012 Public Forum Minutes
6:00 PM at Sooner Legends Inn & Suites**

A Public Forum for the West Lindsey Street (Berry Road to I-35) Proposed Transportation/Storm Water Improvements was held on Thursday, March 15, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at Sooner Legends Inn & Suites in the Sooner Room located at 1200 24th Avenue S.W. Notice and Agenda of the meeting were posted in the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City of Norman website 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mayor Rosenthal
Councilmember James Griffith
Councilmember Roger Gallagher
Councilmember Linda Lockett
Councilmember Tom Kovach
Councilmember Hal Ezzell

ABSENT:

Councilmember Carol Dillingham
Councilmember Dan Quinn
Councilmember Dave Spaulding

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn O'Leary, Director of Public Works
Angelo Lombardo, Traffic Engineer
David Riesland, Assistant Traffic Engineer
John Clink, Capital Project Engineer
Bob Hanger, Storm Water Engineer
Bret Cabbiness, Cabbiness Engineering, LLC
Nicci Tiner, Garver Engineering
Shane Smith, Garver Engineering

Mayor Rosenthal opened the forum by welcoming all present and thanking them for their participation in the process. Shawn O'Leary, Public Works Director, gave a brief overview of the project and the progress up to the Public Forum.

Bret Cabbiness (Cabbiness Engineering, LLC, and head of the design team) presented a PowerPoint presentation of the conceptual plan prepared with assistance of participants in a design charrette and individual citizen comments heard outside the charrette. The presentation focused on drainage issues; traffic considerations; crash history; crash locations; options for partial access control; conceptual roadway cross sections; optional roadway cross sections; conceptual roadway footprint; aesthetics and amenities; construction sequencing; and an anticipated project timeline. The presentation also featured a 3-dimensional animation of what the corridor could look like following completion of construction activities.

Questions and comments were received during the meeting. These covered a number of areas including:

- The need for ADA compliant sidewalks and crosswalks
- Drainage issues
- The need to have bicycle lanes
- A concept to dispense with bicycle lanes in favor of more trees and landscaping
- Treating and/or re-use of captured storm water
- Whether or not University of Oklahoma students would be involved in the design process
- Sidewalk continuity
- The width of the proposed bridge on Lindsey Street over Imhoff Creek
- The amount of storm water conveyed to Imhoff Creek by the project
- How special events at the University (i.e., football games) would impact the design
- The termination of the project on the east end
- How this project will complement the University's Bicycle Master Plan

Written comments were also received during and following the meeting. These comments were summarized for use in refinement of the conceptual plan and covered a number of areas including:

- Support for five-lane cross section
- Support for wider easements for landscaping
- Support for utility duct bank
- Support for bicycle lanes
- Support for continuous sidewalks
- No support for landscaped median
- Issues with trash and littering
- Use of decorative stamped concrete can be hazardous to bicyclists
- Use of narrower vehicular lanes to widen bicycle lanes
- Support for decreased storm water conveyance to Imhoff Creek
- Need for accessibility for all users
- The current street design encourages bicyclists to ride on the sidewalk which is statistically more dangerous than on-road cycling
- Landscaping and bicyclists can co-exist
- Imhoff Creek Bridge should include bicycle lanes and sidewalks when reconstructed
- Need more landscaping
- Vote on this project separately from the other potential bond projects
- Support for potential public art
- A suggestion to utilize far-side bus turn-outs to reduce delay at traffic signals

Items submitted for the record

1. Sign in sheet to indicate citizens who attended the meeting. Please note that some may have chosen not to sign the sheet, which may not give a complete account of attendees.

The meeting concluded at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mayor

City Clerk