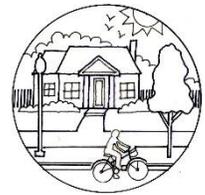


Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



PROJECT NAME: N Larrimore St and 9th St N– Intersection Improvement Project
DATE & TIME: March 13, 2019 – 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm
PLACE: Ashlawn Elementary School, Library

MEETING PURPOSE: To review the concept design for the proposed intersection improvement and rain garden project at N Larrimore St and 9 St N with affected property owners and to address questions or concerns.

ATTENDEES:

County Staff:	Naudy Martinez, Neighborhood Conservation Planner	
	Gino Squarciafico, DES Engineering Supervisor	
	Laura Medina, DES Design Engineer	
	Anne Guillette, Watershed Projects Manager	
	Jill Yutan, NC Landscape Architect	
	Tim McIntosh, NC Program Manager	
Residents:	Maureen Donnelly	867 Larrimore St
	Brian Hannigan	1051 N Liberty
	Kristen Gilley	5937 N 9 th St
	Jeff Coughlin	901 N Larrimore St
	George Talton	1047 N McKinley Rd
	Paul Bobeczko	868 N Larrimore St
	Laura Bobeczko	868 N Larrimore St
	Maryann Simpson	5992 N 9 th St
	Mike Masucci	875 N Larrimore St
	Karen Sutter	5975 N 9 th St
	Charlie Zenzie	5975 N 9 th St

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED DESIGN:

This intersection improvement project proposes to include the installation of new 5' sidewalks with 4' grass utility strips, concrete curb and gutter, stormwater inlets, ADA ramps, curb bump-outs at all four corners, crosswalks, and a proposed rain garden (to be located at the northwest corner of 9th St N and N Larrimore St).

MEETING NOTES (Key Points Only):

The meeting began with an introduction of the project background and scope by Naudy Martinez, Neighborhood Conservation Planner. This project was submitted as a priority project by the Dominion Hills Civic Association in November of 2013 with the goal of changing the design of the intersection to improve pedestrian safety and as applicable, include additional beautification elements such as planting and improvements to existing conditions to the intersection of 9th St N and N Larrimore St. A General Interest Survey was conducted in November of 2015 and received the neighborhood support needed to move the project into the concept design stage.

Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



After the introduction, there were 3 presentations, followed by questions from attending residents:

- Gino Squarciafico, Design and Engineering Supervisor, presented the proposed design for the intersection improvement at 9th St N and N Larrimore St. The goal of the design is to increase pedestrian safety by reducing crossing distances where possible and placing pedestrians where they are most visible to motorist. The design helps to “normalize” the intersection by pulling out the corners of the intersection and making it more of a ‘t’ and reduces crossing distances.

At the SE and SW corners, the curb would extend approximately 8’ into the road (from existing edge of pavement to proposed edge of pavement), follow the existing curb tangentially and tie back in to the existing curb. At the NE corner, the curb would extend approximately 14’ into the road and at the NW corner, the new curb would extend approximately 42’ into the road.

The extension of the curb on the NW corner of the intersection creates an opportunity to locate a rain garden in the area that was once asphalt. A preliminary analysis of storm water was conducted which shows that 5-6 acres is draining in this location and makes the placement of the raingarden there beneficial.

New 5’ wide sidewalks are proposed at each bump-out. The sidewalks will run the length of the new curb line and transition to 4’ in width to tie back into the existing sidewalk. The existing sidewalk between 5975 9th St N and 912 N Larrimore St will be removed and a new sidewalk will be installed closer to the new curb.

Eight (8) storm water inlets are proposed for installation along the curb bump-outs and to the east of 9th St N. An in-depth drainage analysis will be performed during the final design and storm sewer structures and mains may be changed accordingly.

Eight (8) pedestrian ramps (two at each of the curb bump-outs) with truncated domes (detectable warning surfaces) are also proposed. Header curbs will be installed to support ADA ramps.

The proposed installation of the bump-outs will reduce the width of N Larrimore St from 36’ to 25’ and the width of 9th St N from 36’ to approximately 33’ on the west side. The width of 9th St N on the east side will remain 36’.

With this proposal, the loss of parking is minimized. The street widths would allow for parking on both sides except for places where the road is reduced to 25’.

Turning movements were checked using a metro bus to show the turning simulation, which the parking and geometry of the new intersection can support.

Keys to reading the concept plan:

Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



- Red dashed line represents the County right of way
- Double yellow line represents the thermoplastic divider line
- Green circles are proposed trees
- Green hatching is new grass area

A traffic circle was an idea that was discussed at the meeting and was looked into as part of the design. A circular shape (oval) could be located in the general area of where the proposed peninsula is now, but would significantly reduce the loss of parking around the intersection. There would be no potential for a rain garden element and pedestrian crossings would not be as ideal as in a normalized intersection.

- Jill Yutan, Neighborhood Conservation Landscape Architect, presented information on landscaping, including the potential locations of new street trees within the 4' grass strip and new grass areas. As the project moves through design, there could be more opportunities to include additional plantings. No landscaping on private property should be impacted by this project.
- Anne Guillette, Watershed Projects Manager, Office of Sustainability and Environmental Management, presented information on Arlington County's regulatory requirements, the Stormwater Master Plan, an overview of how rain gardens function and examples of existing county green street projects. The raingarden will be designed to include a variety of native plants and will work to capture stormwater runoff and improve the quality of the runoff that enters the four-mile run watershed. The design of the raingarden is still in process pending additional analysis. The County does have a maintenance program for all raingardens, which occurs once a month for 10 months (March-November). Maintenance includes but is not limited to trash removal, pruning, weeding, and erosion control.

Questions

Maureen Donnelly, 867 Larrimore St:

Q. Why would a traffic circle be to one side of the intersection instead of the middle?

A. Typically you want to target the middle, but because of the shape of the intersection and the flow of traffic needed, you end up having a more oval shaped design to ensure traffic can flow smoothly southbound to 9th St N and continue to N Larrimore St as well.

George Talton, 1047 N McKinley Rd:

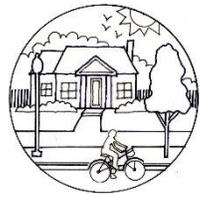
Q. Can you explain the bottle neck that appears to be created on the NW corner of 9th St by the parking? Are the cars parked along the NE side of 9th St going to create an impairment?

A. This should not be the case. As the vehicle is on its way to the intersection, there would be a clear enough way to get through. The stop sign would be higher than the car itself so there would be no obstructions. The stop bar is an additional queue that would indicate to the driver a stop sign is approaching.

Q. What do the bump outs mean for property owners? Where can they place landscaping and fencing with this new design?

Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



A. The measurement of the lot stays the same. Fencing would not be permitted as the bump outs are in the County right-of-way. There is additional lawn that people would have to mow.

Q. What is the likelihood that pedestrians will not cut across the three lots?

A. The likelihood is unknown, but some landscaping can be used as a deterrent to keep people on the sidewalk.

Q. What happens to the debris in the rain garden?

A. If there is residue left in the rain gardens, it would be addressed by the maintenance crews. Most of the residue is typically captured by residue stones which can then be cleaned off.

Maryann Simpson, 5992 9th St.

Q. Do rain gardens increase the number of mosquitoes?

A. No. The gardens are designed to drain within 48 hours which doesn't give mosquitoes enough time to hatch.

Q. The problem on Larrimore St is that the cars go too fast, is this design going to impact speed?

A. The proposed design will help reduce speeds and will make drivers more aware since they must navigate and be more conscious of the new hardscape elements (i.e. the curb extensions). Shortening crossing distances also helps pedestrians see cars better. Having short distances, visible cross walks, and tightening up the intersection creates an illusion of a smaller road and helps drivers slow down.

Mike Masucci, 875 N Larrimore St.

Q. Is there a way to make this intersection a 4-way stop sign?

A. This is not something that the Neighborhood Conservation program can incorporate into the design at this time. There has been an effort to include stop signs at the intersection in the past, but it hasn't met the warrants. Once the project is installed, the neighborhood can make another request for a study to be done.

Charlie Zenzie, 5975 N 9th St.

Q. Who will mow all the new grass?

A. The responsibility will be on the homeowner to mow the grass in front of their homes.

Karen Sutter, 5975 N 9th St.

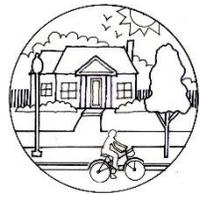
Q. How do the storm drains function with the rain garden during heavy storms?

A. A lot of new storm water infrastructure will be installed along with the rain garden. The additional storm drains located on the NE/NW corners and up 9th St N will help capture water as it flows into the intersection. The rain garden will help capture some of the storm but the bulk of it will be captured by the storm drains.

Q. What is the elevation for the grass area and rain garden?

Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



A. The final dimensions of the rain garden have not been determined, but it is estimated that there would be an approximate 1-2' slope which transitions to the basin and from the basin to the top of the soil and plantings approximately, 1' of depth.

Q. If there are any leaves in the storm drains, is there any risk of flooding?

A. If the drain gets clogged, there is a backup drain which can capture any additional water.

Paul Bobeczko, 868 N Larrimore St:

Q. What impact to the utilities will there be?

A. The proposed storm drains would be installed under existing utilities and staff does not anticipate that there will be an impact to gas or water. There is always a chance for disruption of utilities during construction.

Q. Will the new sidewalks look like the old sidewalks?

A. The new concrete sidewalk will not match the existing sidewalks.

Maureen Donnelly, 867 Larrimore St:

Q. How long would this whole thing take?

A. A project of this size could take approximately 6 months. This depends on contractor timeline and weather.

Karen Sutter, 5975 N 9th St:

Q. Can you speak to the lighting at the curb bump-outs?

A. The lights are all on utility poles. There will be no changes to them—the lighting remains in the same locations.

Brian Hannigan, 1051 N Liberty:

Q. Is there a cost estimate for this project?

A. No, this would be created once the project is approved through the final petition.

Maureen Donnelly, 867 Larrimore St:

Q. Would this be an opportunity to get improved lighting?

A. Not with this project. This could be added as a separate request.

George Talton, 1047 N McKinley Rd:

Q. What is the worst-case scenario in a storm? What would happen if the rain garden pooled?

A. The raingarden is at the low point and if it were to fill, the water would exit towards the street, go over the sidewalk and go into the storm drain system. The houses would not be affected if that were to happen. There is also an overflow pipe in the raingarden.

Kristen Gilley, 5937 N 9th St:

Q. What will the dimensions of the rain garden be?

A. The dimensions are approximately 15'X12' but could change with the final design.

Neighborhood Conservation Program

CONCEPT DESIGN MEETING NOTES



Karen Sutter, 5975 N 9th St:

Q. Is the parking drawn what we would keep?

A. Yes, the area indicated is what staff is proposing for the design.

Paul Bobeczko, 868 N Larrimore St:

Q. How much more new lawn will I have?

A. Approximately 45' X 5' which will be within the County right-of-way.

Q. Are you aware of the drains in our yard?

A. The engineers will need to conduct a site visit to evaluate the site and ensure all drainage structures are captured before the projects moves into construction.

NEXT STEPS:

Included in this packet is a proposed conceptual design plan subject to change upon final engineering for your review and a final petition letter that must be signed by property owners to proceed with funding for the project which will be mailed the week of March 18th.

Please vote yes or no for the project and return the petition to Naudy Martinez by **Friday, April 5th, 2019**. Petitions can be returned using a self-addressed postage paid envelope (included), hand delivered to County offices, or scanned and emailed to nmartinez@arlingtonva.us.

If 60% of the affected linear footage on the street agrees to the project, the project will become eligible for the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee to recommend the project for county funding in the Spring 2019 (June) funding round. **Petitions that are not returned are counted as "yes" votes.**

If the project becomes qualified and is funded, a final design meeting will be held for property owners when the design is 90% complete. Meeting invitations will be sent out to notify property owners.

Any questions or additional information regarding this project or process can be directed to Naudy Martinez, Neighborhood Conservation Planner in the Neighborhood Conservation Program, at 703-228-7933 or nmartinez@arlingtonva.us.

Your input and vote is greatly appreciated!

Cc: All owners of properties within project limits
Brian Hannigan, President Dominion Hills Civic Association
Kristen Gilley, NC representative, Dominion Hills

Encl: (3) – Proposed concept design plan
Concept design meeting notes
Final petition form



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY PLANNING, HOUSING AND DEVELOPMENT
Neighborhood Services Division, Neighborhood Conservation Program

2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 700, Arlington, VA 22201
TEL 703.228.3830 FAX 703.228.3834 www.arlingtonva.us