

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD COUNCIL WORK SESSION
OCTOBER 18, 2016**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mary Canesi, Municipal Clerk. This meeting has been properly advertised according to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231

FLAG SALUTE

ROLL CALL: Dewees, Lischin, Murray, O'Neill, Perri, Piergiovanni, Travagline

WORK SESSION / TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

- NJDOT Transportation Alternative Grant "TAP"

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

PUBLIC SESSION/FIVE MINUTES PER SPEAKER

ADJOURNMENT

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Provide a detailed project description

The plan titled Bicycle Network Project as prepared by Schaeffer Nassar Scheidegg Consultin Engineers, LLC and signed by Daniel Kwapinski, PP, PE, CME dated 10/11/2016, proposes to add 17,740 feet of designated bike lanes and 44,260 feet of shared bike lanes through out the City of Northfield, fot a total of 11.742 miles of additional bike routes.

The City of Northfield has adopted a copmlete streets policy and is proposing improvements to comply with this policy. The design focuses mainly on two important areas of Northfield, the Regional Bike Path and Birch Grove Park. These two areas are located at opposite areas of the city, the Regional Bike Path is in the Southern section of the city and Birch Grove Park is in the northern section.

The plan was designed using the NJDOT, Atlantic County and Northfield city board approved plan "Northfield Bicycle and Pedistrian Plan" dated October 2015 as the primary guide.

The City proposes to designate bike lanes on Burton Ave from Mill Road to Jackson Ave

and on the roadway leading to the entrance of Birch Grove Park. Most of this existing roadway is at least 30' wide and can accomplish 5' bike lanes in each direction by adding striping only. At the intersection of Burton Ave and Mill Road,

Project Proposal

TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085

txtProjectSummary continued

there is a city owned property, minor road widening will needed to allow for the proposed designated bike lanes.

The plan proposes to add shared bike lanes on the following roadways within the city limits:

Oak Ave from Mill Road (County Route 662) to Burrough's Ave

Ridgewood Ave from Oak Ave to Shore Road (County Route 585)

Cedar Bridge Road from Oak Ave to The Regional Bikepath

Yorkshire Ave from the Regional Bikepath to Bay Drive

Bay Drive from Yorkshire Ave to Mill Road (County Route 662)

Oak View Drive from Shore Road (County Route 585) to the Regional Bike Path

Northfield Ave from Shore Road (County Route 585) to the Regional Bike Path

Jackson Ave from the Regional Bikepath to Burton Ave

Burton Ave from Jackson to Evergreen Ave

Evergreen Ave from Burton Ave to Lake Ave

Lake Ave from Evergreen Ave to Harvey Drive

Harvey Drive from Lake Ave to Dolphin Ave (County Route 644)

The project also proposes the addition of sidewalk along Jackson Avenue to complete the sidewalks in critical areas. Minor access and striping improvements are proposed on the roadways that intersect with the Regional Bikepath.

Project Proposal

TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085

txtProjectSummary continued

Draft

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Attach a map showing the location of the project.

Project Location:

Nothrfield Bicycle Network, various locations throughout the City of Northfield

From:

Neighborhoods east of Regional Bikepath

To:

Neighborhoods / Birch Grove Park West of Regional Bike Path

Will the project affect user mode of Transportation? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain **how** the project will address the following:

How the project connects community or regional activity centers such as businesses, schools, employment, libraries, shopping and recreation areas; and project utilizes existing infrastructure to promote the use of non-automotive modes through new facilities or improvements of existing networks

The proposed bike lanes are anticipated to decrease the use of motor vehicles by residents to travel to and from many well used destinations through out the city and increase pedestrian and bike travel.

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Does the project provide regional or community benefits? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain **how** the project supports the following:
Project must provide regional or community benefits, project demonstrates the benefit to quality of life, community and environment, project demonstrates the extent to which the project links other transportation modes and increases access to community centers (schools, employment sites, recreation and shopping) and its visibility or impact on surrounding locations.

Within the city limits of Northfield, there is 2 miles of pedestrian / bike pathway that is part of the Regional Bikepath. The Regional Bike Path is approximately 9 miles in length spanning Pleasantville to Ocean City. The portion that runs through Northfield is located in the southern quarter of the city. This project proposes to create 62,000 feet of new bikeways that will allow all the residents of Northfield to safely reach the Regional Bikepath, as well as, Birch Grove Park, the Northfield Community school and many other destinations through out the City.

The new lanes would also allow residents of neighboring communities that use the Regional Bike Path to easily and safely gain access to Birch Grove Park, which offers additional recreation for the entire family. The City often holds community events at Birch Grove Park. We anticipate that with safer alternative access to Birch Grove Park, those events will have less motor vehicle traffic and more participation.

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Does this project address safety and public health benefits? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain **how** the project supports the following:
LPA must provide safety or public health benefits or improvements. LPA demonstrates safety need, increases active transportation opportunities, and provides other public health benefits.

A portion of the new shared bike lane will run along Cedar Bridge Road which runs on the westerly side of the Northfield Community School property. The school has an enrollment of close to 1,100 children in grades Kindergarten through 8th, and does not offer bus transportation to the students of the school. Currently, alternate transportation and parent drop-off is the primary method of transportation to the school

By creating new bike lanes near the school it would provide the students with a safe and healthy way to commute to school that won't rely on motor vehicles.

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Is this project part of a state, regional or municipal transportation, land use or economic development plan? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain **and** attach the relevant pages of the plan.

Projects that are part of a state, regional or municipal transportation, land use or economic development plan will receive additional consideration in this category. At a minimum, projects should be consistent with and help to implement the goals of these plans.

This plan is a portion of the Bicycle Plan section that is contained in the NJDOT, Atlantic County and Northfield City Board approved plan titled "Northfield Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan" and is dated October of 2015.

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Is the project located in one of the following designated areas:
Complete Streets, Transit Villages, and or Urban Aid Community? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain below.

The City of Northfield has adopted a Complete Streets policy, in connection with this project minor road widening will be required.

Transportation Alternatives 2016

TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085

Bikeways

Project Proposal

Does this project provide value as an Environmental Mitigation or Enhancement?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain below.

Describe how the project will enhance an environmentally sensitive parcel, involve vegetation management, address wildlife management issues, provide stormwater mitigation, or preserve an historic property (listed in or eligible for listing in the National and /or NJ Registers of Historic Places).

The increased safe areas for pedestrian/bike traffic, will reduce motor vehicle traffic throughout the city. It will allow residents to enjoy the existing parks and recreational fields that will now be safely accessible without the use of motor vehicles.

Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Will there be any ROW taking or easements from environmentally sensitive parcels?
☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, please explain below.

Describe whether there are takings from wetlands, parks, historic properties, contaminated sites, etc.

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Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Does this project require environmental permits or approvals? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If **Yes**, please provide the status.

Provide a project environmental schedule which includes NEPA compliance, and permits/approvals from NJDEP or other regulatory agencies (including Pinelands, Meadowlands, or Highlands).

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Transportation Alternatives 2016
TA-2016-Bicycle Network Improvement Project-00085
Bikeways

Project Proposal

Does the project have supplemental funds? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If **Yes**, please explain below.

The sources and amounts of other committed or dedicated funding from other governmental agencies and organizations shall be explained. Transportation Alternatives and other identified or dedicated funding sources must result in a completed and fully funded project. While there is no requirement for matching funds, the availability of other funds is viewed as an indication, or measure, of the projects potential to succeed.

The city of Northfield is prepared to fund \$31,644.38 to this project. It plans to allocate \$18,082.50 to the cost of construction and \$13,561.88 to the cost of the design.