

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. C(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: June 22, 2010

TITLE: Public Hearing on Pedestrian and Bicycle Access Alternatives in the Estes Drive Area

DEPARTMENT: Planning	PUBLIC HEARING: YES <u>X</u> NO <u> </u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. Map of alternatives	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Patricia McGuire – 918-7327 Jeff Brubaker – 918-7329

PURPOSE

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive comments on pedestrian and bicycle access alternatives proposed by Town staff to improve access in the Estes Drive vicinity. The attached resolution continues the public hearing to September 28 in order to allow a second community meeting to take place with residents in the Estes Dr. vicinity.

INFORMATION

At the November 10, 2009, worksession, the Board of Aldermen adopted the FY10-16 Capital Improvements Program with additional recommendations. One of these recommendations was for staff to prepare a report on pedestrian-bicycle access alternatives in the area.

Staff reported on these alternatives at the January 12, 2010, worksession. Materials from that meeting are available here: http://townofcarrboro.org/BoA/Agendas/2010/01_12_2010.htm. At the meeting, the Board directed staff to schedule community meetings with residents in the area, specifically in Estes Park Apartments, to gauge their input on the alternatives. A community meeting was held on Monday, May 3, at Carrboro Elementary School, which was advertised via flyers (English and Spanish) and communication with Estes Park Apartments management. Attendees provided input via a survey and verbal comments; however, low turnout at the meeting suggested another meeting should be held. At the time of writing, staff are communicating with Estes Park Apartments management about holding a second meeting aimed at attracting a better turnout.

Since the January 12 meeting, one of the alternatives – the Wilson Park Multi-use Path – has moved into the design phase. The path will provide an alternative, off-road connection between Estes Dr. and N. Greensboro St. for bicyclists and pedestrians.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

About 40 hours of staff time would be needed to plan and hold a second community meeting. Translation of meeting materials into Spanish, Burmese, and-or Karen would be desirable for a meeting with Estes Park Apartments residents. For the May 3 meeting, a Spanish translator volunteered to translate materials at no cost. It is unknown at this time whether these volunteer

services could be maintained for a second meeting or whether a small commission would be needed for translation.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommend that the Board of Aldermen consider the attached resolution receiving public comments and continuing the public hearing to September 28 to allow for a second community meeting to take place.